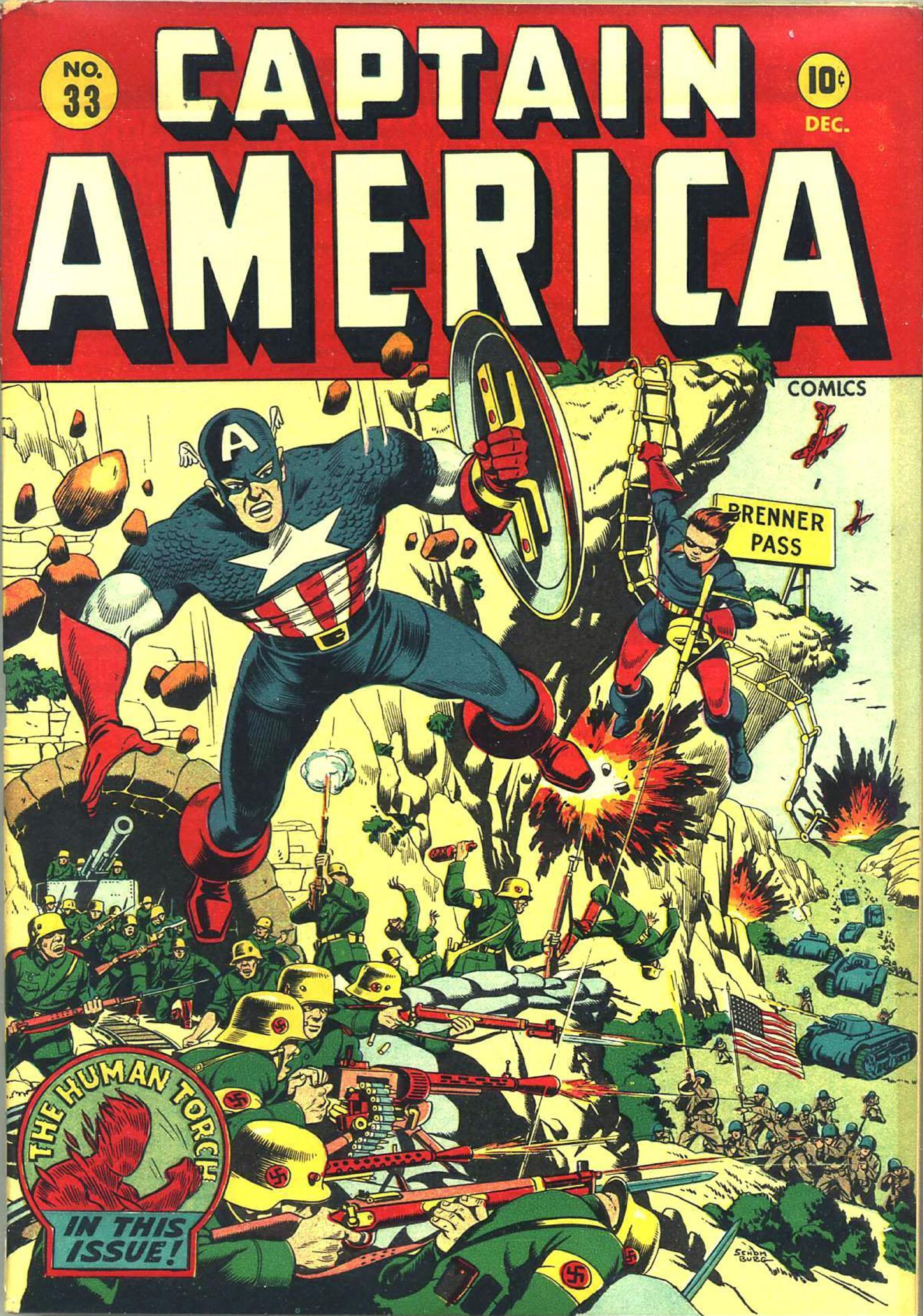
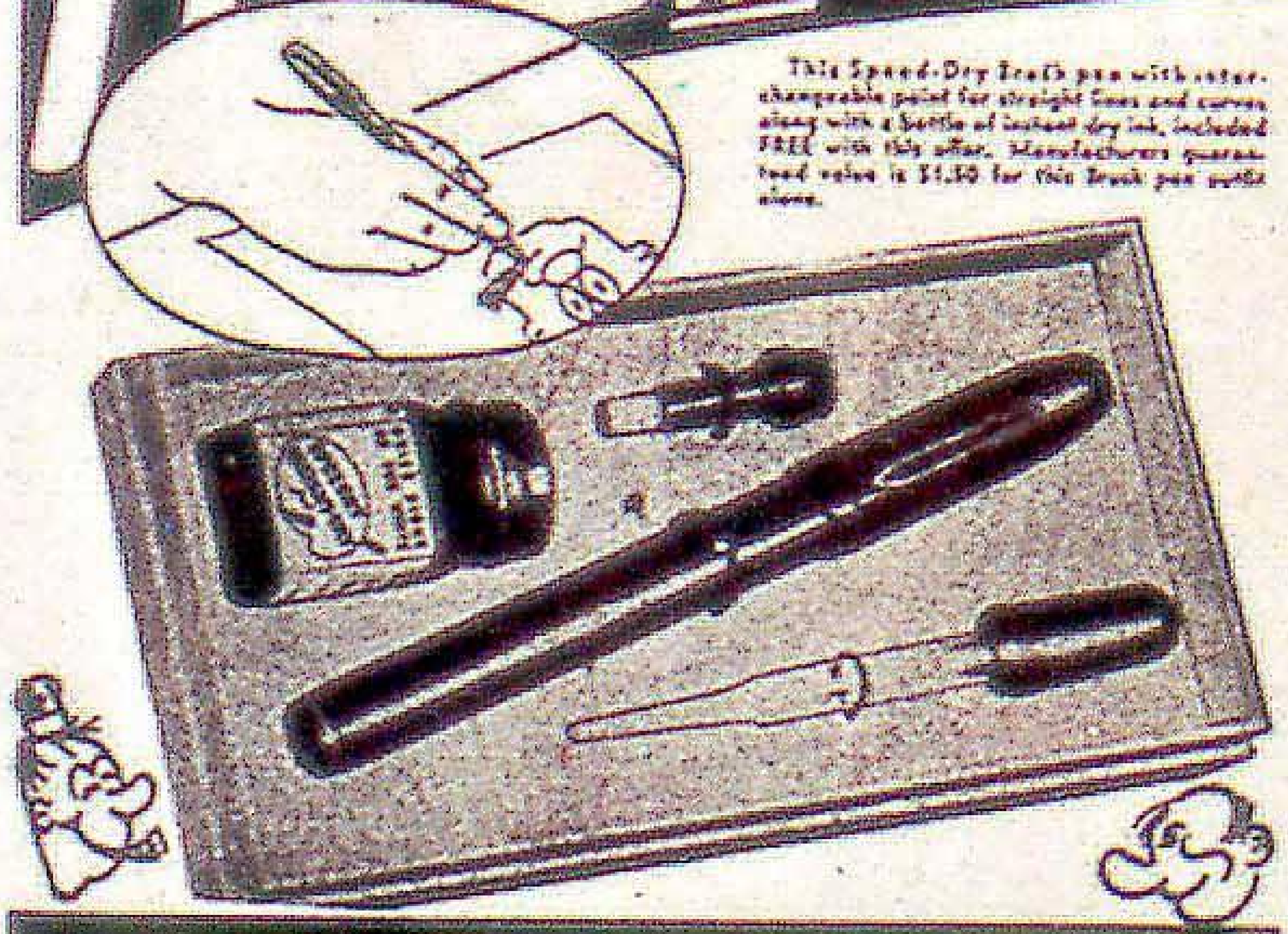

NO. 33
CAPTAIN
AMERICA
10¢
DEC.
COMICS
BRENNER
PASS
THE HUMAN TORCH
IN THIS
ISSUE!
SCHOMBURG

WITH THIS OFFER

FREE THIS AMAZING SPEEDRY BRUSHPEN KIT TO HELP YOU LEARN CARTOONING



This Speed-Dry Brush pen with interchangeable point for straight lines and curves along with a bottle of instant dry ink, included FREE with this offer. Manufacturers guaranteed value is $1.50 for this Brush pen outfit alone.

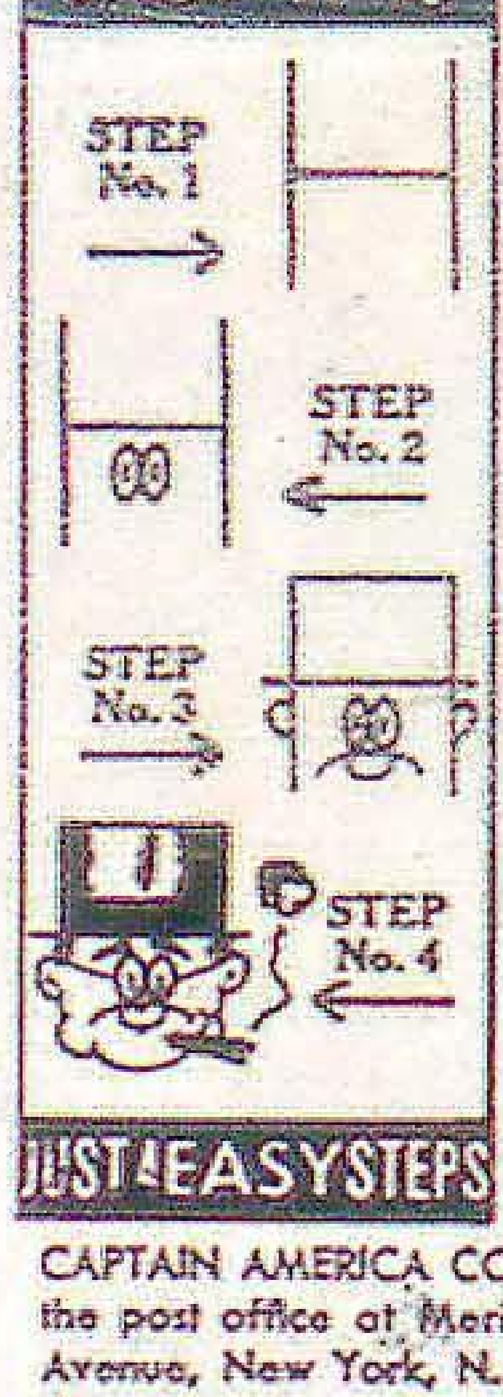
DRAW FOR BIG PAY

ACTUALLY DRAW FUNNY FACES AND PROFESSIONAL-LIKE LETTERS IN ONE SIMPLE LESSON!

Think of it! You actually draw with your very first lesson. . . . Sounds impossible, but it's true because everything has been made so easy and simple. But practice makes perfect. Practice and it won't be long before you, providing you have ability, will be creating and drawing cartoony faces of your own and perhaps making money out of your newly developed talent.

Four Easy Steps By FRANK WEBB

You are indeed fortunate to have included with this course, fast-moving illustrated cartoon instructions by the famous Frank Webb. Cartoonist Webb shows you how in four easy steps you can make the funniest faces imaginable. They are so easy to draw that you will be amazed. If you want a career as a cartoonist and artist don't miss this unusual opportunity. . . Let our instructions, equipment along with Frank Webb's great book "How to Make Faces" be your inspiration and perhaps the foundation of your very future.



Read All You Get

You get "How to Make Faces" by Frank Webb, professional drawing paper, sandpaper, pencil sharpening block, art gum eraser, assortment of American made crayons, ruler, Frank Webb cartoon pencil, flexible protractor to help you easily make any designs, 6 inch 30 degree flexible triangle, special instructions and dot and dash lettering system AND if you order at once you get Speed-Dry Brush pen outfit free.

ACT NOW! Rush Coupon . . . you must be 100% delighted or money back.

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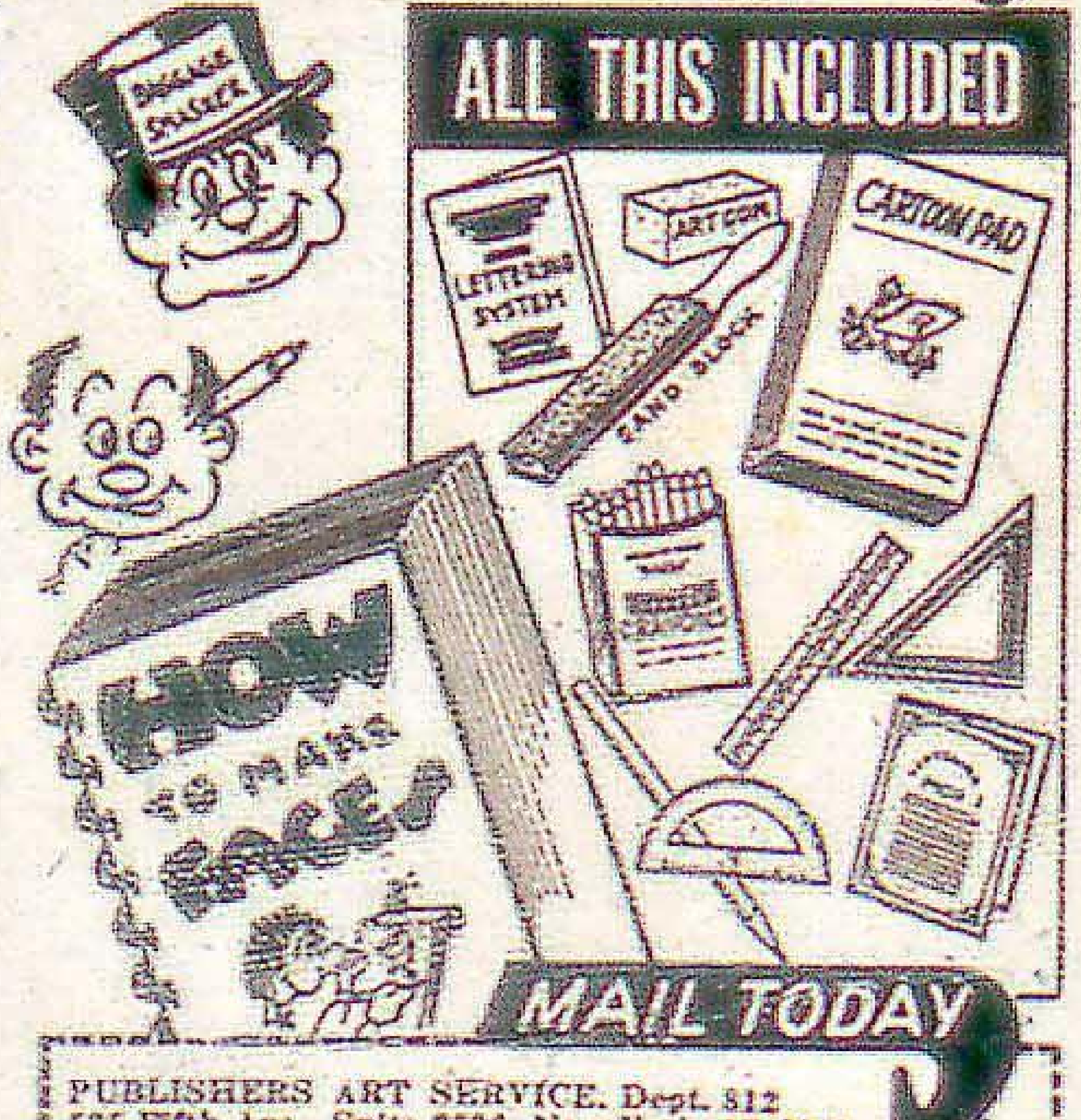
PUBLISHERS ART SERVICE
Dept. 812-535 5th Avenue, N.Y., 17, N.Y.

You'll be delighted and amazed with the astonishing contents of the announcement . . . you get so much for so little that everything included is almost a gift.

This limited free offer is made to encourage you who are sincere and anxious to learn cartooning. No matter if you never had any previous experience, you will find these instructions so interesting and so simplified, you it is almost like copying, so that you just learn quickly how to draw the funniest and cartooniest faces. You can master lettering for show cards by just making straight and curved lines through the shortcut dot and dash lettering instructions included.

Cartoonists and artists make big money drawing for newspapers, advertisers, magazines, etc. Perhaps you have talent! If you have talent the instructions you get here will help you toward mastering this art and the easy steps which you practice in spare time will help you to make finished cartoon posters and signs. These will make you feel proud and able to prove your talent not only to yourself but to your friends and to possible customers. Think of it, this system is so fast moving and simple that you actually draw faces with the first lesson. No grinding studies and if you act at once we include free with your order a complete patented speed dry brush pen outfit. Remember the SPEED-DRY BRUSH PEN OUTFIT alone is sold for $1.50. So act at once and get yours FREE with your order.

ALL THIS INCLUDED



MAIL TODAY

PUBLISHERS ART SERVICE. Dept. 812
535 Fifth Ave., Suite 2506, New York. 17. N.Y.

I accept your special offer! Send your show card lettering and cartoon instructions with all equipment by return mail. Also include the free Speed-Dry Brush pen outfit. I will deposit $2.98, plus postage with postman. If I am not satisfied I will return within five days for full refund. (Send $2.98 now and save postage, same guarantee.)

NAME ....

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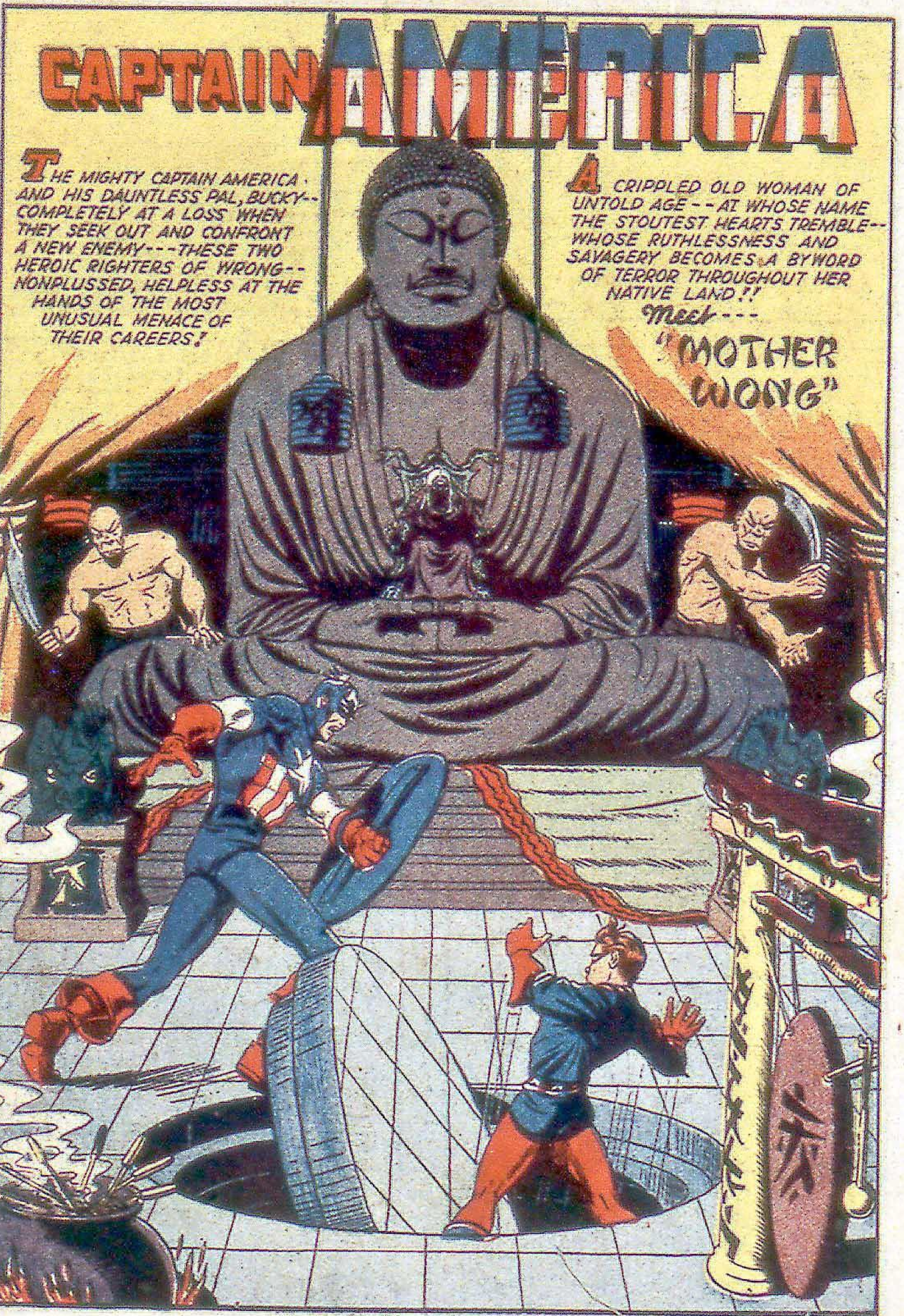
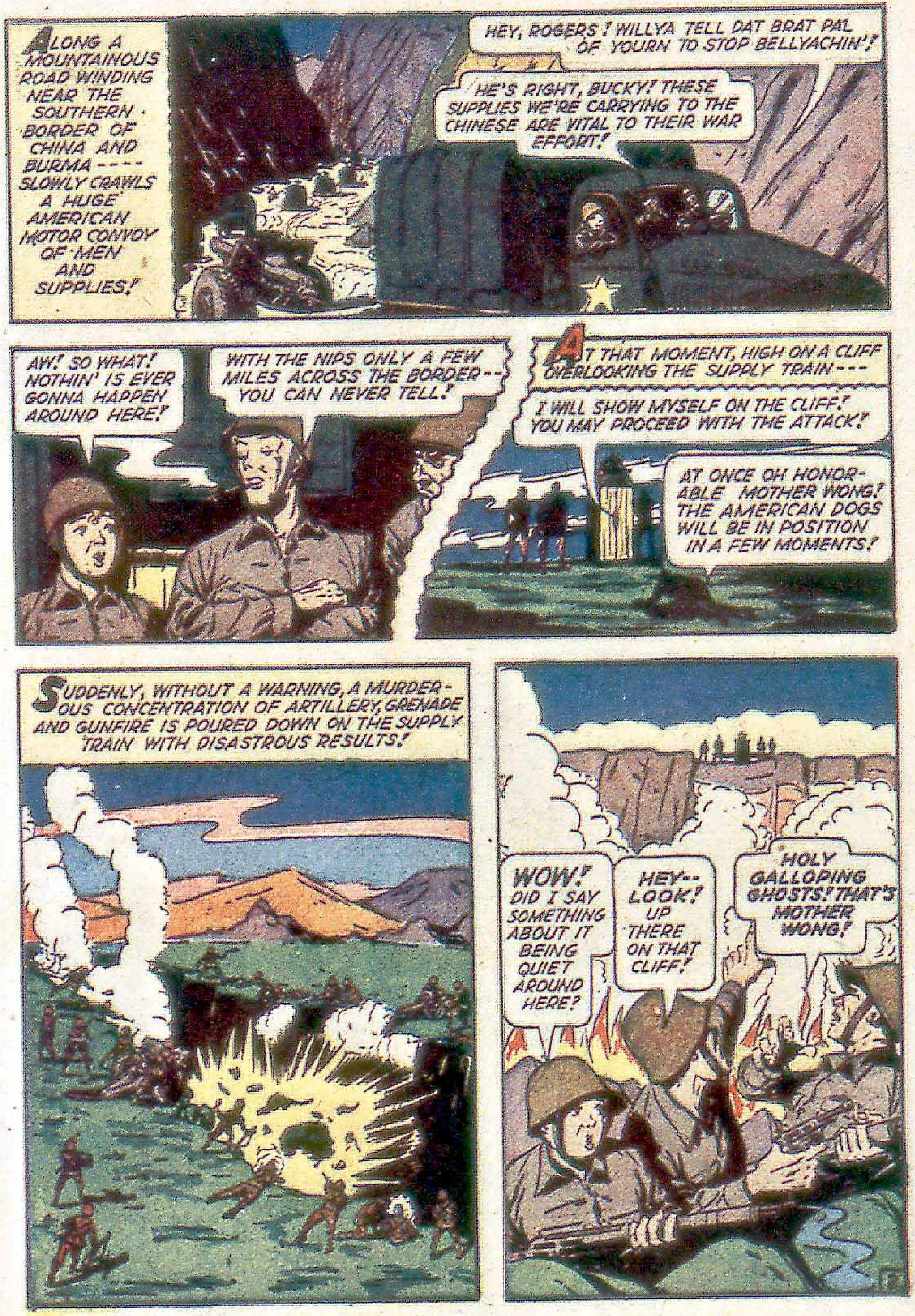
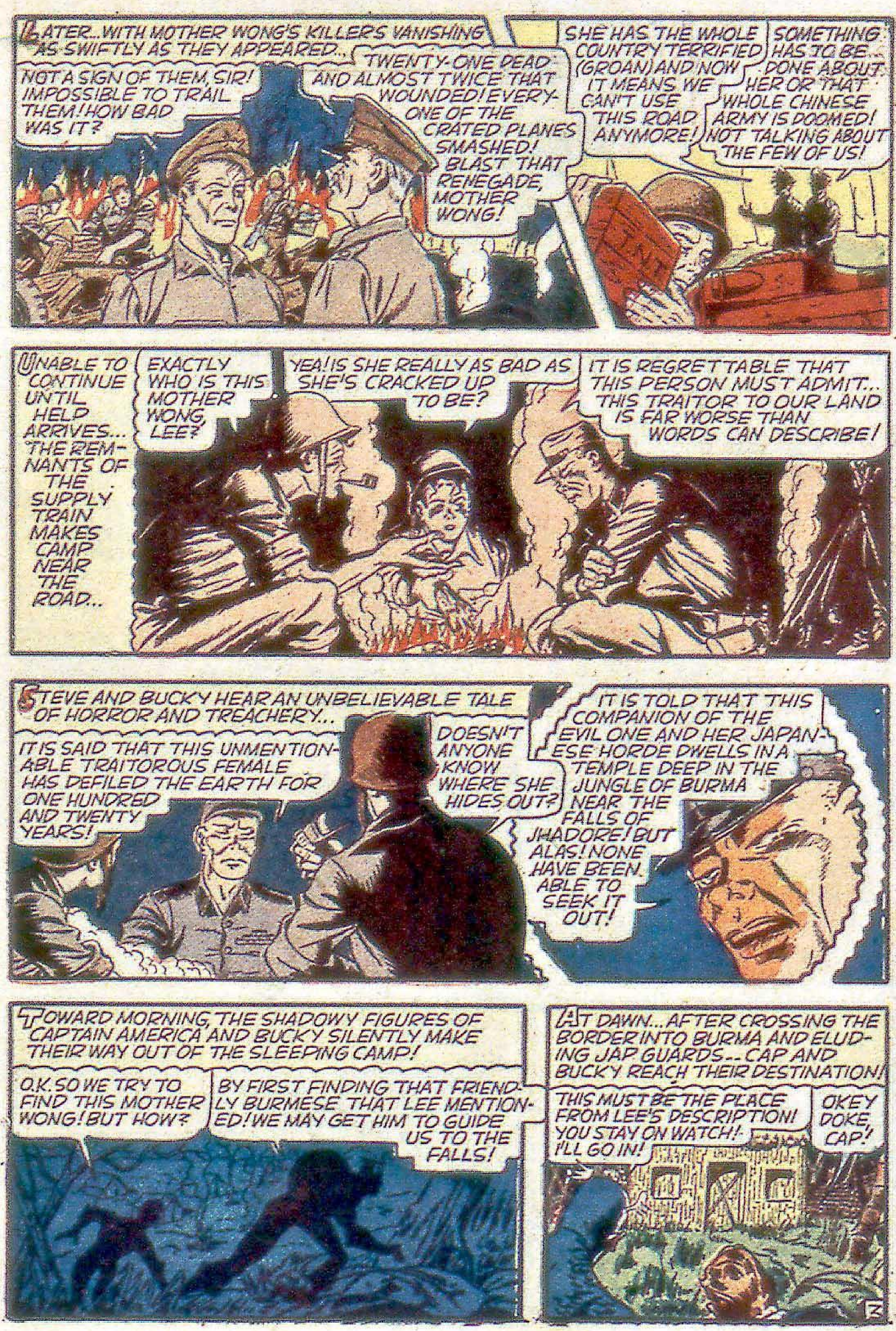
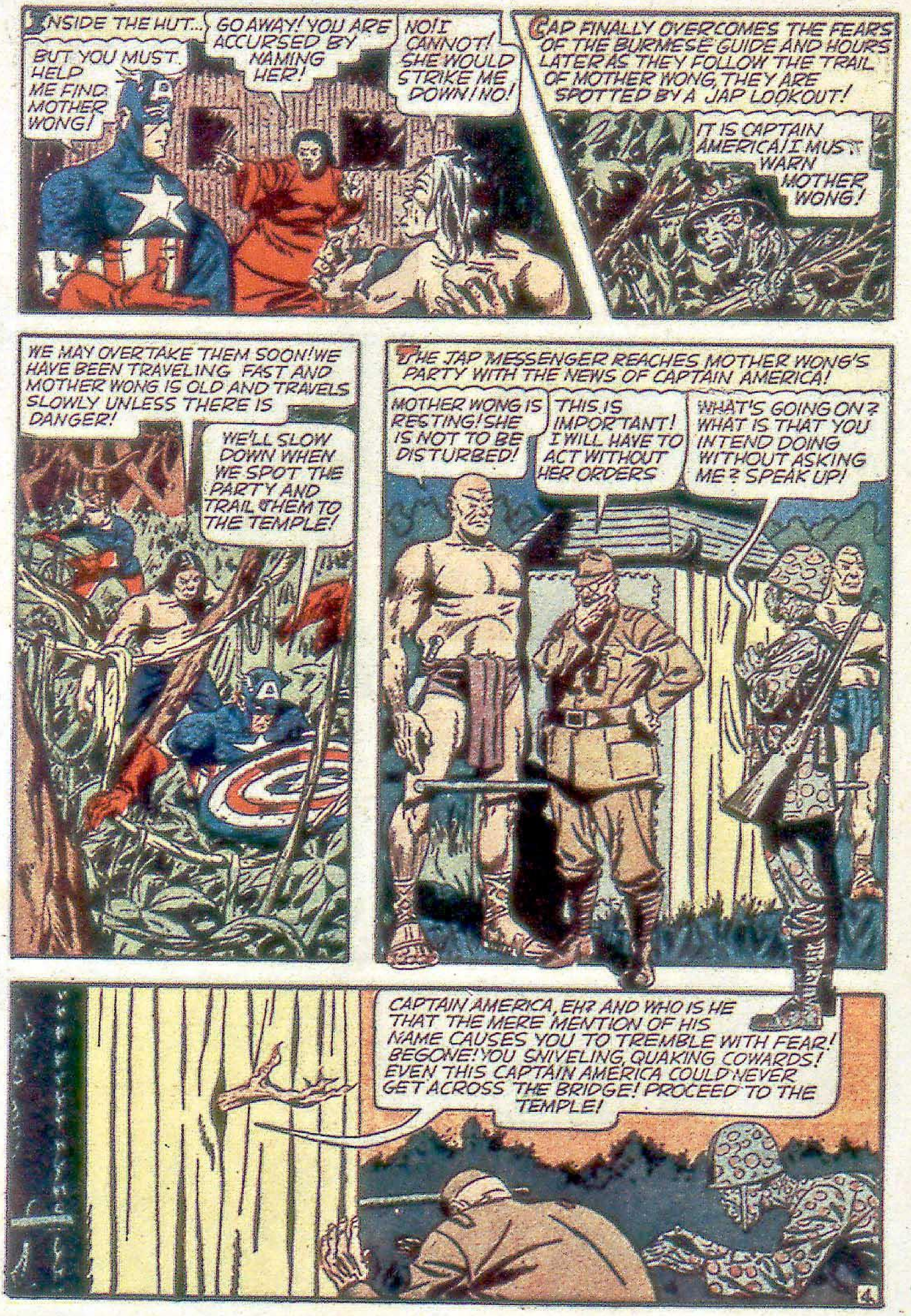
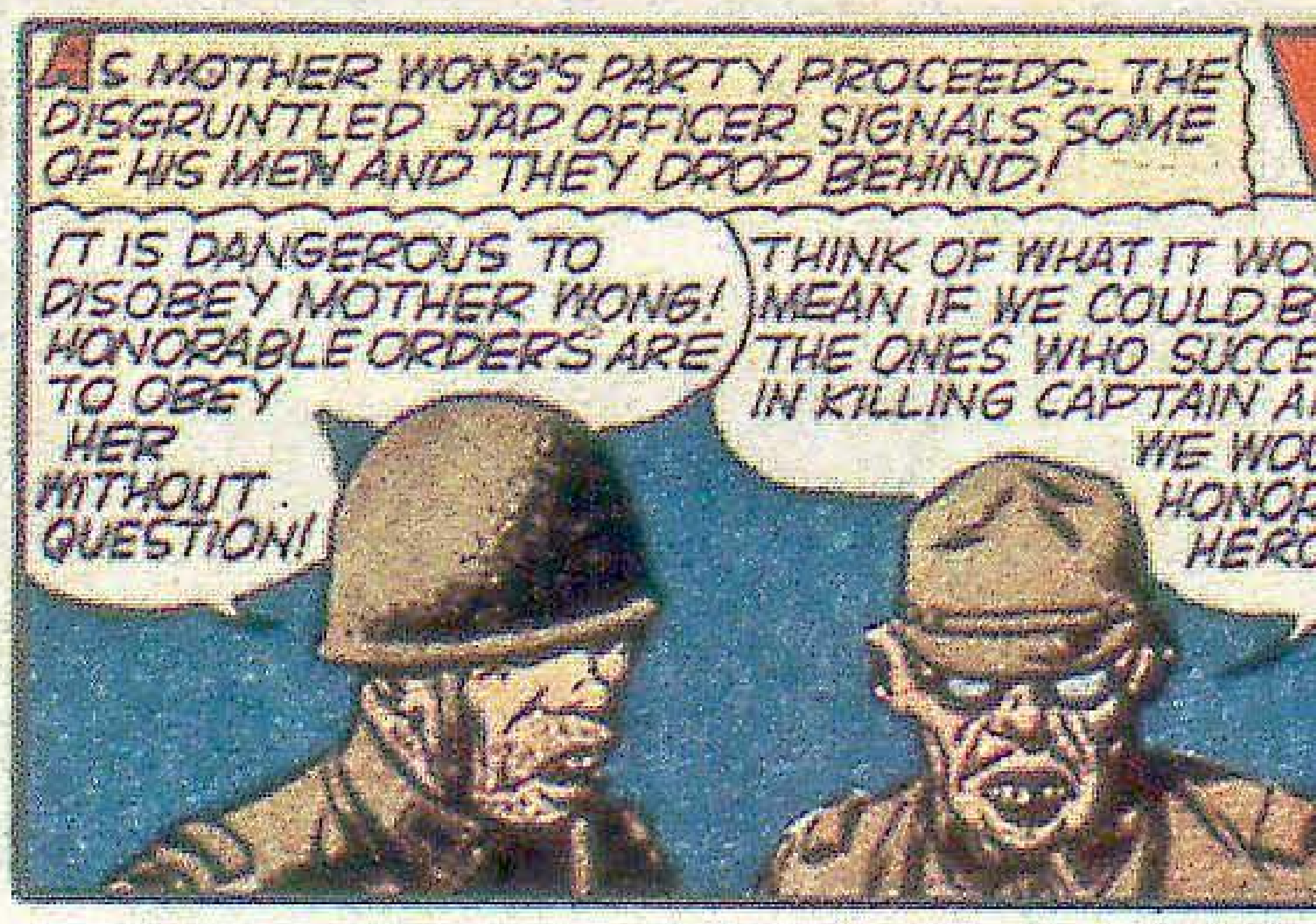
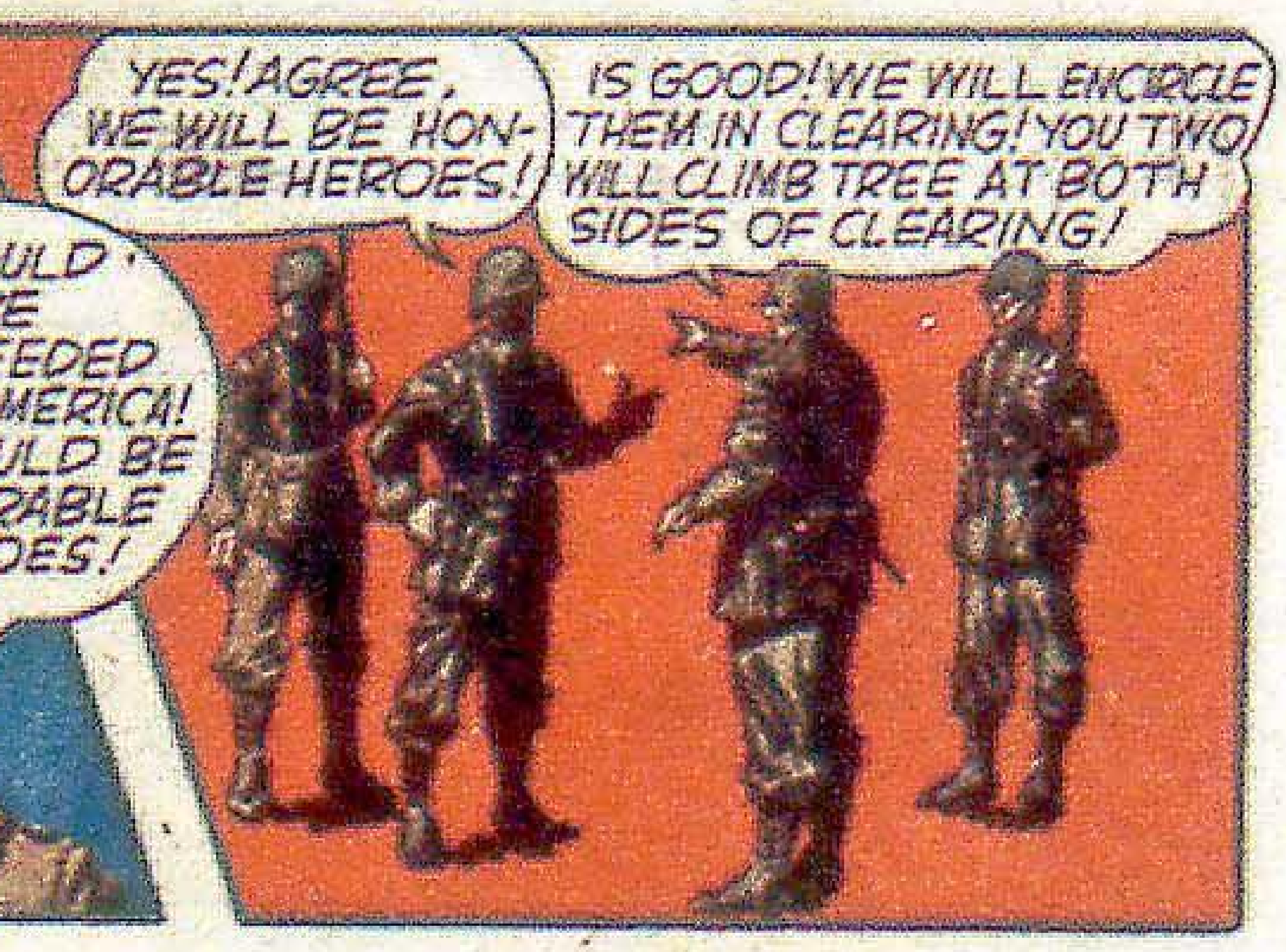

CAPTAIN AMERICA
THE MIGHTY CAPTAIN AMERICA AND HIS DAUNTLESS PAL, BUCKY-- COMPLETELY AT A LOSS WHEN THEY SEEK OUT AND CONFRONT A NEW ENEMY---THESE TWO HEROIC RIGHTERS OF WRONG-- NONPLUSSED, HELPLESS AT THE HANDS OF THE MOST UNUSUAL MENACE OF THEIR CAREERS!
A CRIPPLED OLD WOMAN OF UNTOLD AGE--AT WHOSE NAME THE STOUTEST HEARTS TREMBLE-- WHOSE RUTHLESSNESS AND SAVAGERY BECOMES A BYWORD OF TERROR THROUGHOUT HER NATIVE LAND!!
Meet---
"MOTHER WONG"

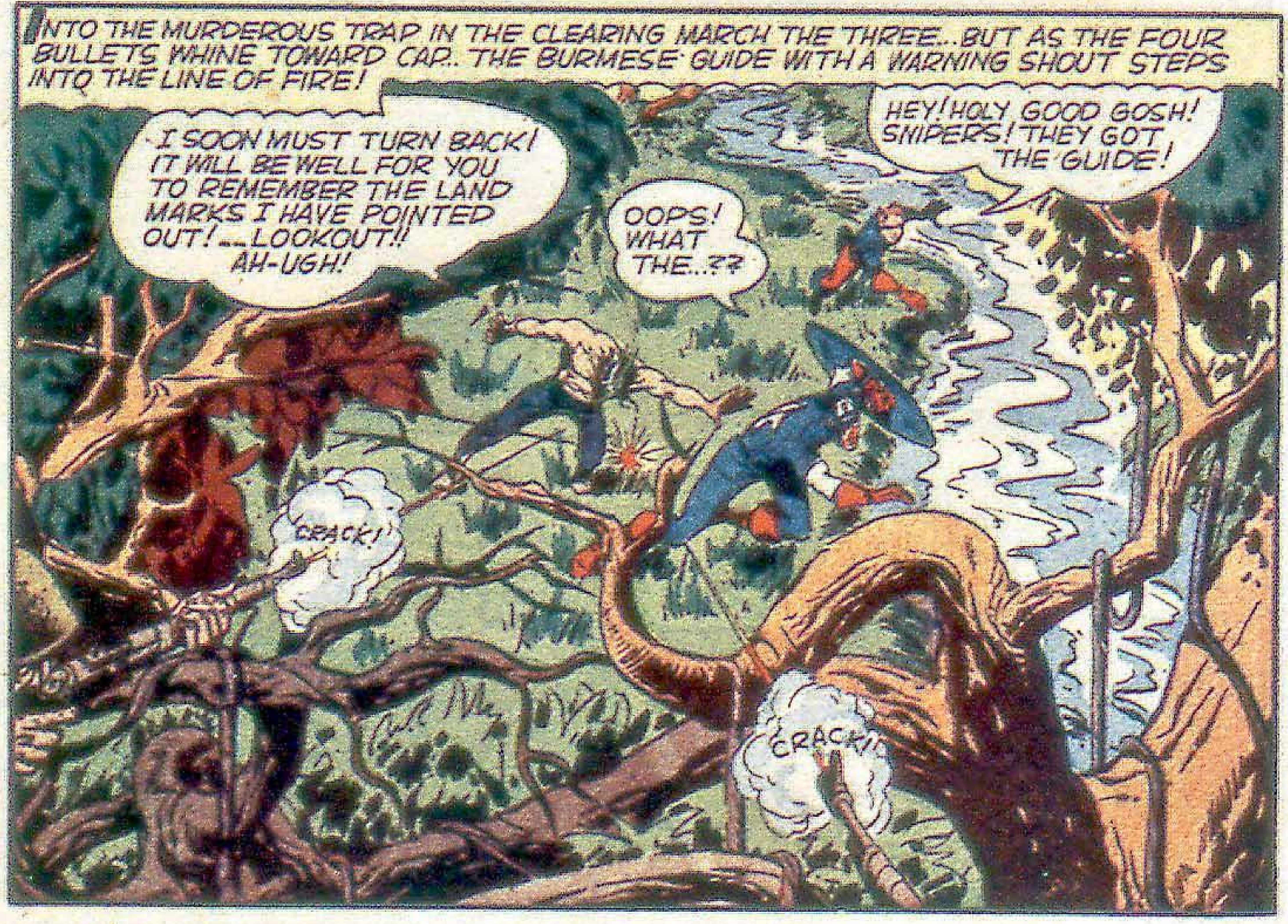

ALONG A MOUNTAINOUS ROAD WINDING NEAR THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF CHINA AND BURMA---- SLOWLY CRAWLS A HUGE AMERICAN MOTOR CONVOY OF MEN AND SUPPLIES!
HEY, ROGERS! WILLYA TELL DAT BRAT PAL OF YOURN TO STOP BELLYACHIN'!
HE'S RIGHT, BUCKY! THESE SUPPLIES WE'RE CARRYING TO THE CHINESE ARE VITAL TO THEIR WAR EFFORT!
AW! SO WHAT! NOTHIN' IS EVER GONNA HAPPEN AROUND HERE!
WITH THE NIPS ONLY A FEW MILES ACROSS THE BORDER-- YOU CAN NEVER TELL!
AT THAT MOMENT, HIGH ON A CLIFF OVERLOOKING THE SUPPLY TRAIN---
I WILL SHOW MYSELF ON THE CLIFF! YOU MAY PROCEED WITH THE ATTACK!
AT ONCE OH HONORABLE MOTHER WONG! THE AMERICAN DOGS WILL BE IN POSITION IN A FEW MOMENTS!
SUDDENLY, WITHOUT A WARNING, A MURDEROUS CONCENTRATION OF ARTILLERY, GRENADE AND GUNFIRE IS POURED DOWN ON THE SUPPLY TRAIN WITH DISASTROUS RESULTS!
WOW! DID I SAY SOMETHING ABOUT IT BEING QUIET AROUND HERE?
HEY-- LOOK! UP THERE ON THAT CLIFF!
HOLY GALLOPING GHOSTS! THAT'S MOTHER WONG!

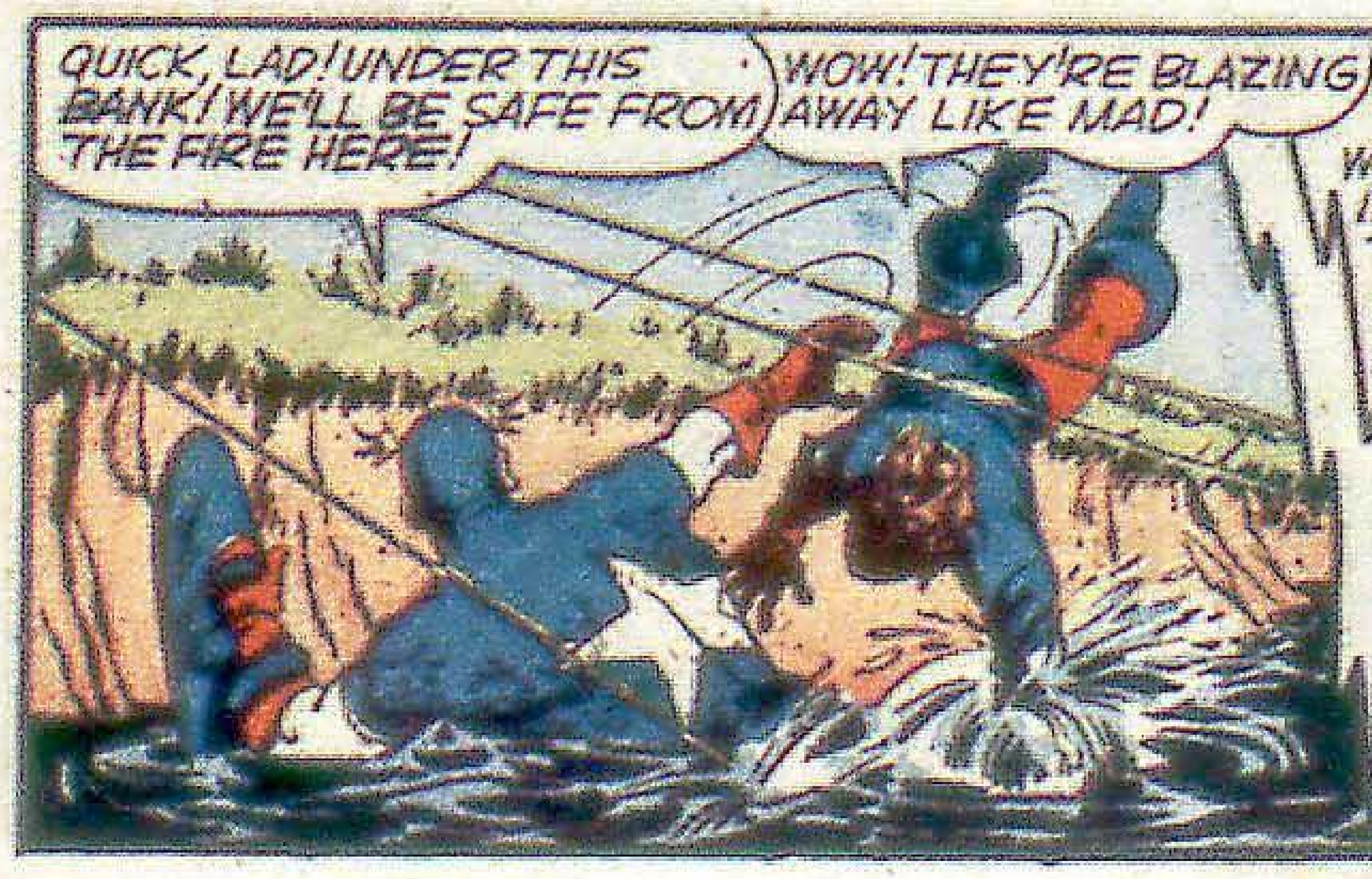

LATER...WITH MOTHER WONG'S KILLERS VANISHING AS SWIFTLY AS THEY APPEARED..
NOT A SIGN OF THEM, SIR! IMPOSSIBLE TO TRAIL THEM! HOW BAD WAS IT?
TWENTY-ONE DEAD AND ALMOST TWICE THAT WOUNDED! EVERYONE OF THE CRATED PLANES SMASHED! BLAST THAT RENEGADE, MOTHER WONG!
SHE HAS THE WHOLE COUNTRY TERRIFIED (GROAN) AND NOW IT MEANS WE CAN'T USE THIS ROAD ANYMORE!
SOMETHING HAS TO BE... DONE ABOUT HER OR THAT WHOLE CHINESE ARMY IS DOOMED! NOT TALKING ABOUT THE FEW OF US!
UNABLE TO CONTINUE UNTIL HELP ARRIVES... THE REMNANTS OF THE SUPPLY TRAIN MAKES CAMP NEAR THE ROAD..
EXACTLY WHO IS THIS MOTHER WONG, LEE?
YEA! IS SHE REALLY AS BAD AS SHE'S CRACKED UP TO BE?
IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT THIS PERSON MUST ADMIT... THIS TRAITOR TO OUR LAND IS FAR WORSE THAN WORDS CAN DESCRIBE!
STEVE AND BUCKY HEAR AN UNBELIEVABLE TALE OF HORROR AND TREACHERY...
IT IS SAID THAT THIS UNMENTIONABLE TRAITOROUS FEMALE HAS DEFILED THE EARTH FOR ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS!
DOESN'T ANYONE KNOW WHERE SHE HIDES OUT?
IT IS TOLD THAT THIS COMPANION OF THE EVIL ONE AND HER JAPANESE HORDE DWELLS IN A TEMPLE DEEP IN THE JUNGLE OF BURMA NEAR THE FALLS OF JHADORE! BUT ALAS! NONE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEEK IT OUT!
TOWARD MORNING, THE SHADOWY FIGURES OF CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY SILENTLY MAKE THEIR WAY OUT OF THE SLEEPING CAMP!
O.K. SO WE TRY TO FIND THIS MOTHER WONG! BUT HOW?
BY FIRST FINDING THAT FRIENDLY BURMESE THAT LEE MENTIONED! WE MAY GET HIM TO GUIDE US TO THE FALLS!
AT DAWN... AFTER CROSSING THE BORDER INTO BURMA AND ELUDING JAP GUARDS... CAP AND BUCKY REACH THEIR DESTINATION!
THIS MUST BE THE PLACE FROM LEE'S DESCRIPTION! YOU STAY ON WATCH! I'LL GO IN!
OKEY DOKE, CAP!

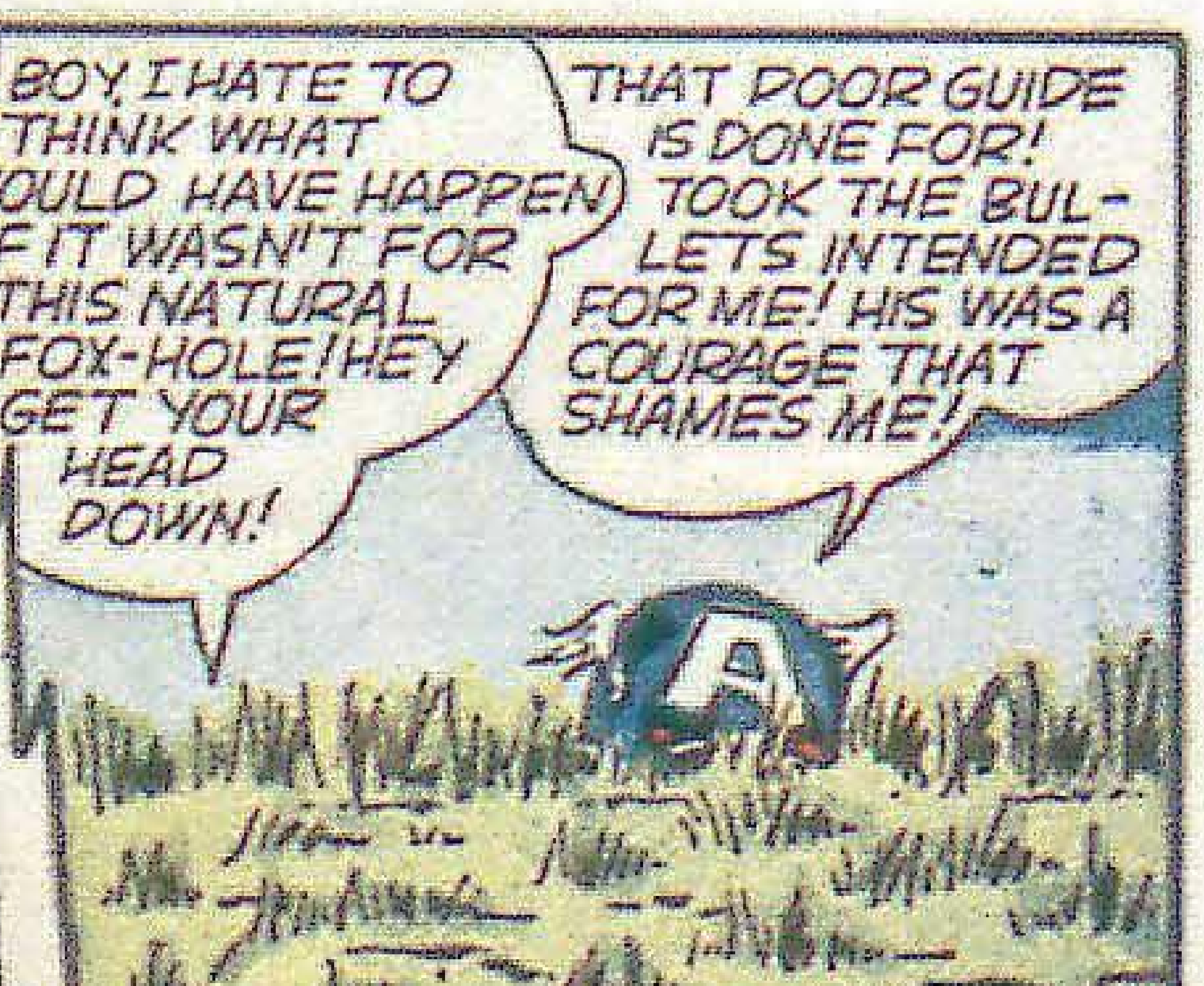

INSIDE THE HUT...
BUT YOU MUST HELP ME FIND MOTHER WONG!
GO AWAY! YOU ARE ACCURSED BY NAMING HER!
NO! I CANNOT! SHE WOULD STRIKE ME DOWN! NO!
CAP FINALLY OVERCOMES THE FEARS OF THE BURMESE GUIDE AND HOURS LATER AS THEY FOLLOW THE TRAIL OF MOTHER WONG, THEY ARE SPOTTED BY A JAP LOOKOUT!
IT IS CAPTAIN AMERICA! I MUST WARN MOTHER WONG!
WE MAY OVERTAKE THEM SOON! WE HAVE BEEN TRAVELING FAST AND MOTHER WONG IS OLD AND TRAVELS SLOWLY UNLESS THERE IS DANGER!
WE'LL SLOW DOWN WHEN WE SPOT THE PARTY AND TRAIL THEM TO THE TEMPLE!
THE JAP MESSENGER REACHES MOTHER WONG'S PARTY WITH THE NEWS OF CAPTAIN AMERICA!
MOTHER WONG IS RESTING! SHE IS NOT TO BE DISTURBED!
THIS IS IMPORTANT! I WILL HAVE TO ACT WITHOUT HER ORDERS
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHAT IS THAT YOU INTEND DOING WITHOUT ASKING ME? SPEAK UP!
CAPTAIN AMERICA, EH? AND WHO IS HE THAT THE MERE MENTION OF HIS NAME CAUSES YOU TO TREMBLE WITH FEAR! BEGONE! YOU SNIVELING, QUAKING COWARDS! EVEN THIS CAPTAIN AMERICA COULD NEVER GET ACROSS THE BRIDGE! PROCEED TO THE TEMPLE!

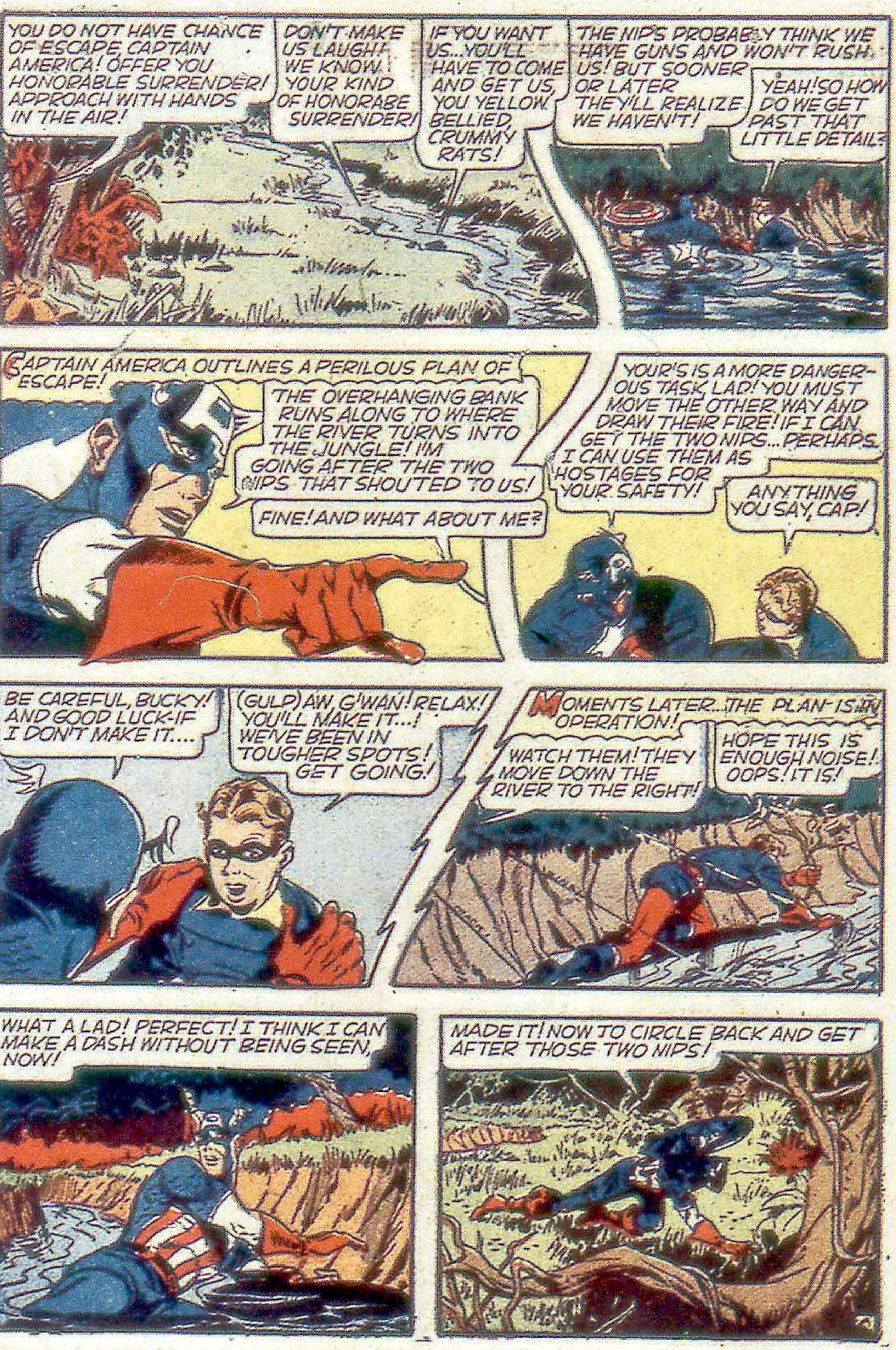

AS MOTHER WONG'S PARTY PROCEEDS.. THE DISGRUNTLED JAP OFFICER SIGNALS SOME OF HIS MEN AND THEY DROP BEHIND!
IT IS DANGEROUS TO DISOBEY MOTHER WONG! HONORABLE ORDERS ARE TO OBEY HER WITHOUT QUESTION!
THINK OF WHAT IT WOULD MEAN IF WE COULD BE THE ONES WHO SUCCEEDED IN KILLING CAPTAIN AMERICA! WE WOULD BE HONORABLE HEROES!

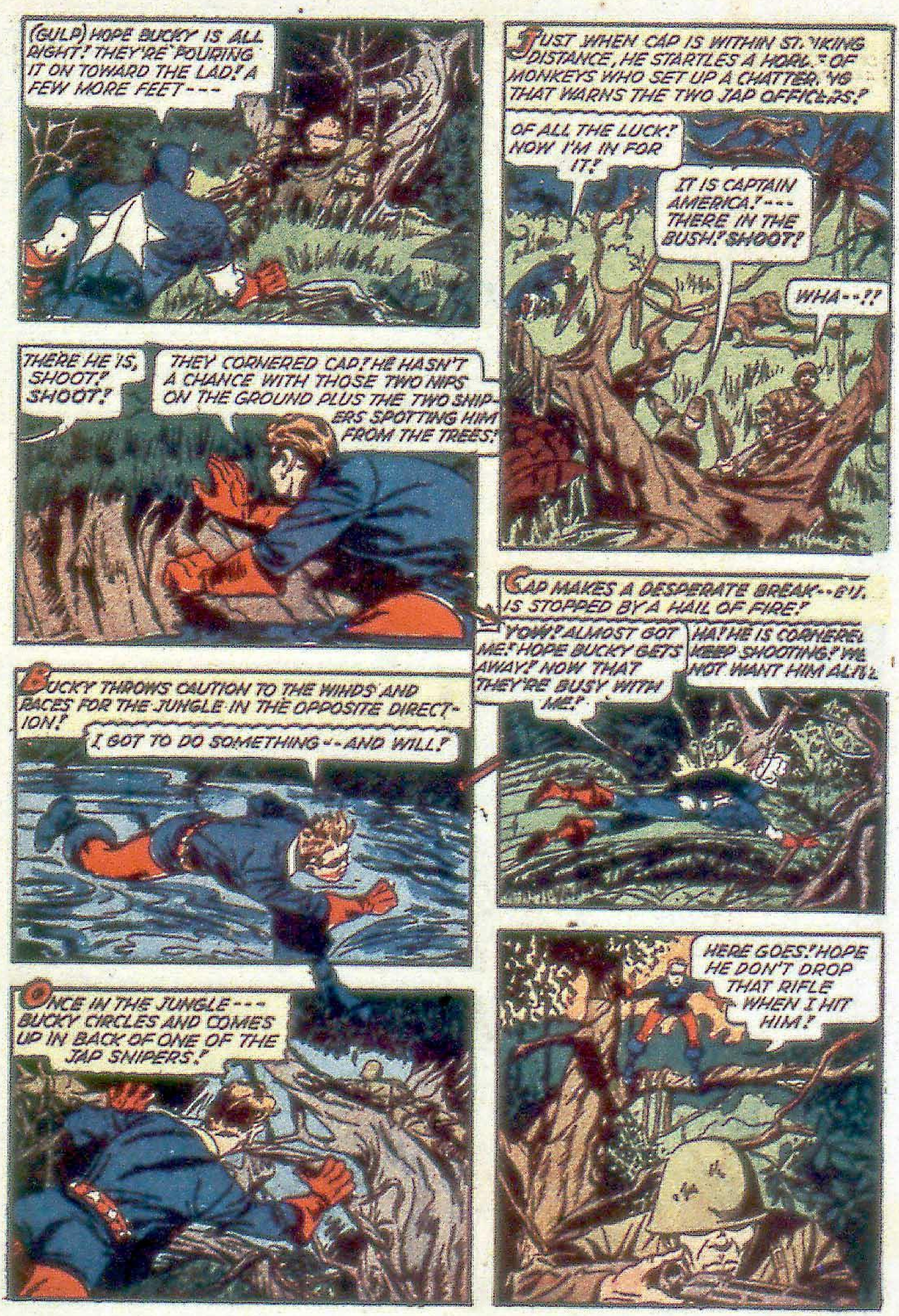

YES! AGREE, WE WILL BE HONORABLE HEROES!
IS GOOD! WE WILL ENCIRCLE THEM IN CLEARING! YOU TWO WILL CLIMB TREE AT BOTH SIDES OF CLEARING!

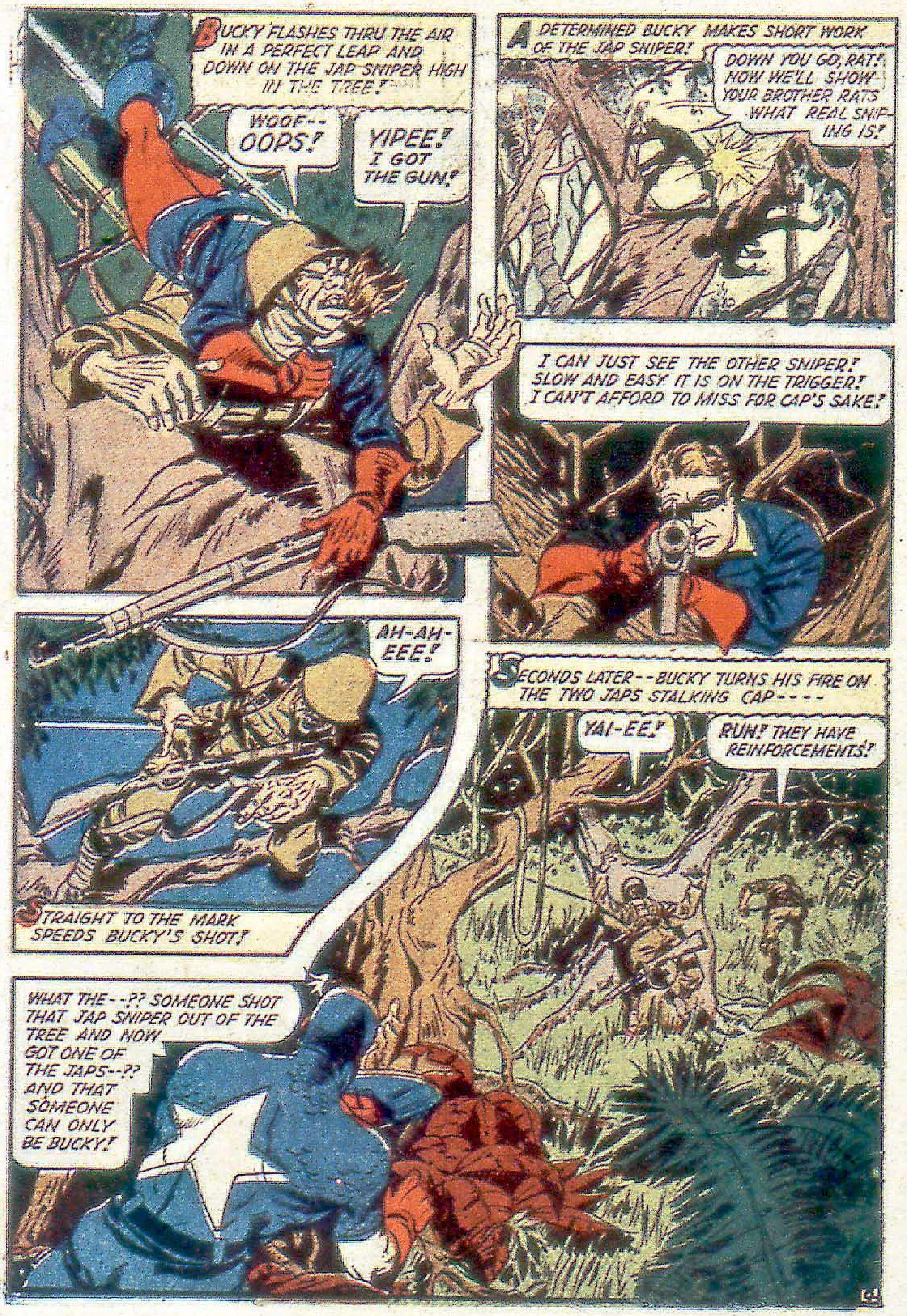

INTO THE MURDEROUS TRAP IN THE CLEARING MARCH THE THREE...BUT AS THE FOUR BULLETS WHINE TOWARD CAP.. THE BURMESE GUIDE WITH A WARNING SHOUT STEPS INTO THE LINE OF FIRE!
I SOON MUST TURN BACK! IT WILL BE WELL FOR YOU TO REMEMBER THE LAND MARKS I HAVE POINTED OUT! ...LOOKOUT!! AH-UGH!
OOPS! WHAT THE..??
HEY! HOLY GOOD GOSH! SNIPERS! THEY GOT THE GUIDE!
CRACK!
CRACK!

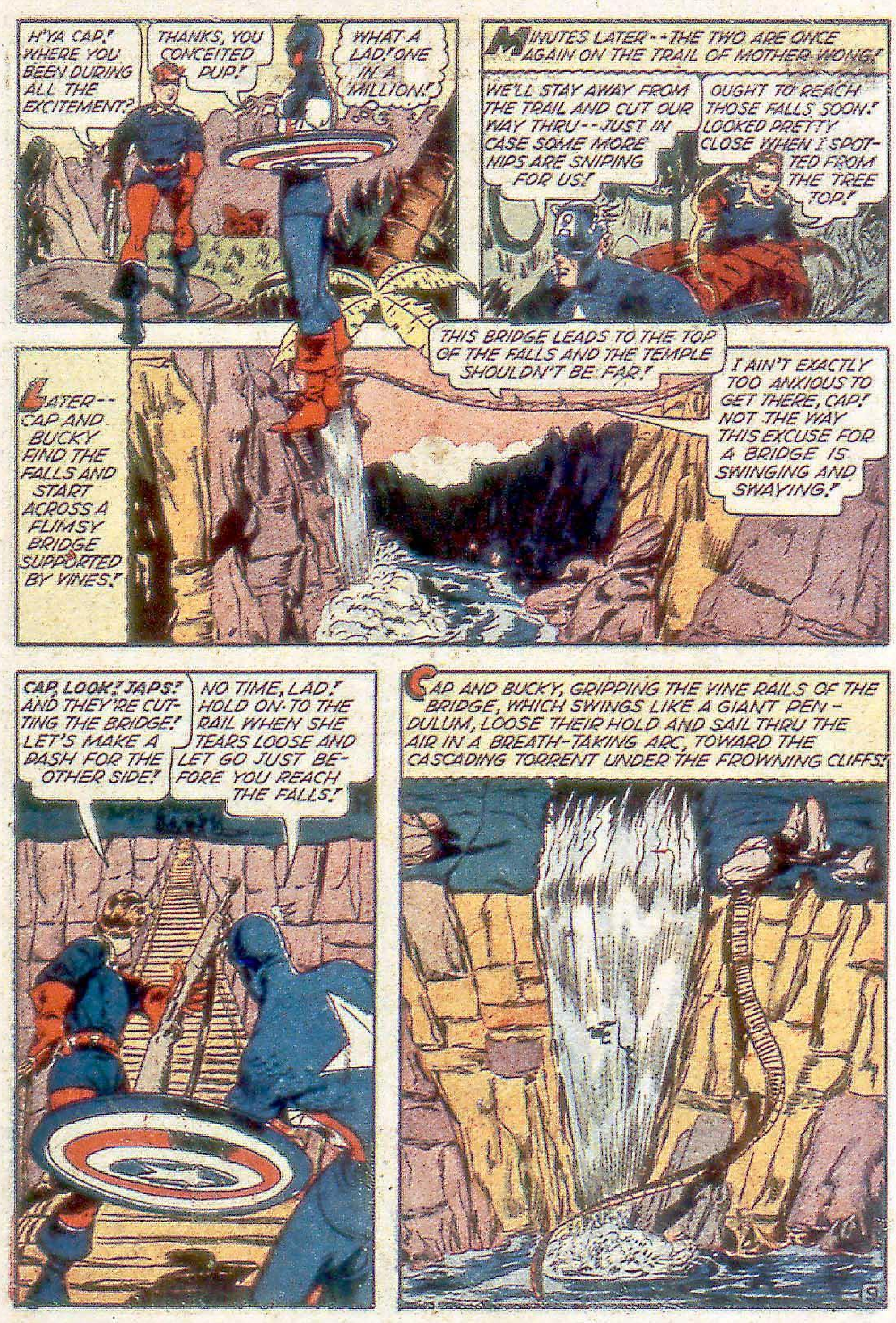

QUICK, LAD! UNDER THIS BANK! WE'LL BE SAFE FROM THE FIRE HERE!
WOW! THEY'RE BLAZING AWAY LIKE MAD!

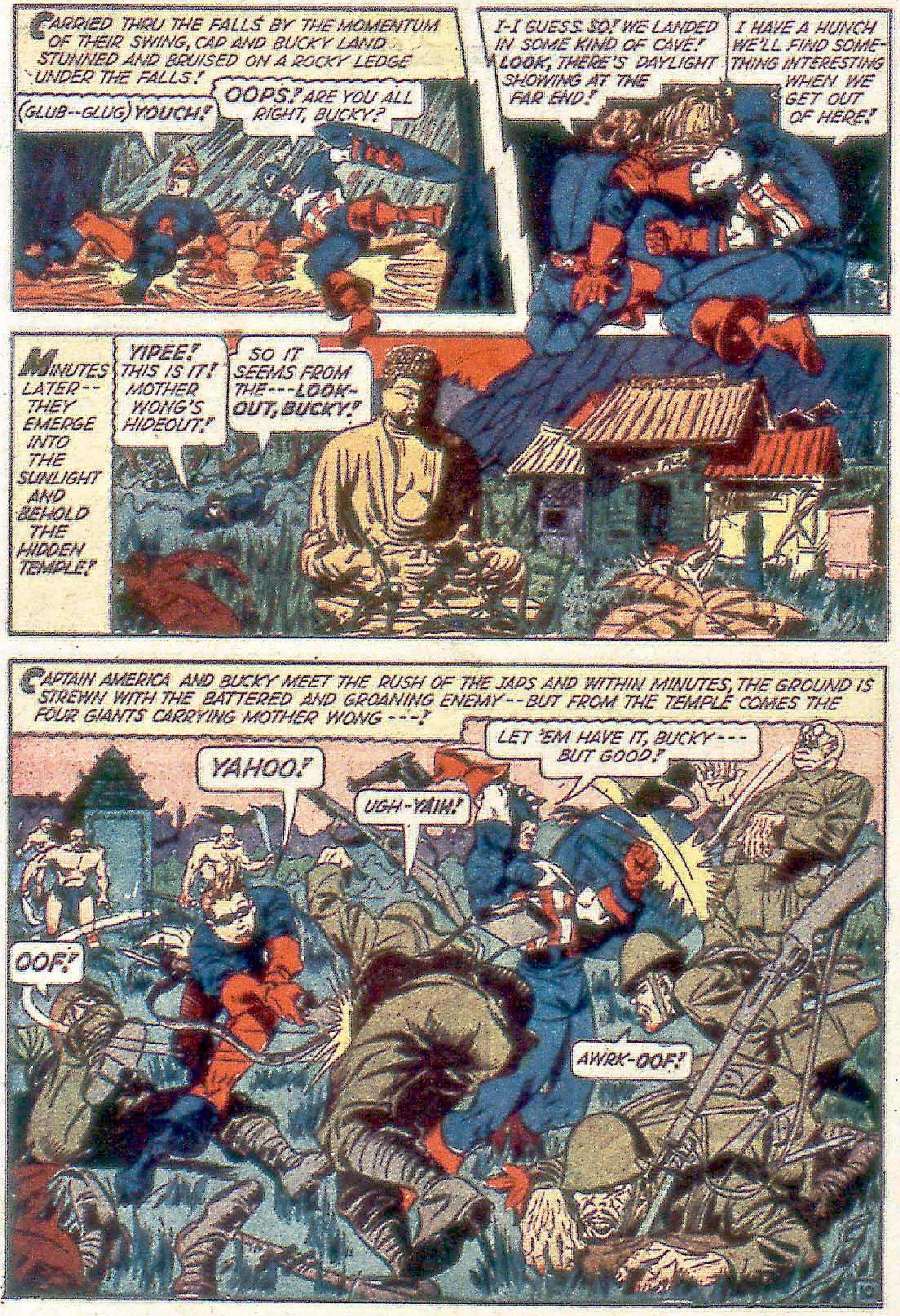

BOY, I HATE TO THINK WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPEN IF IT WASN'T FOR THIS NATURAL FOX-HOLE! HEY GET YOUR HEAD DOWN!
THAT POOR GUIDE IS DONE FOR! TOOK THE BULLETS INTENDED FOR ME! HIS WAS A COURAGE THAT SHAMES ME!

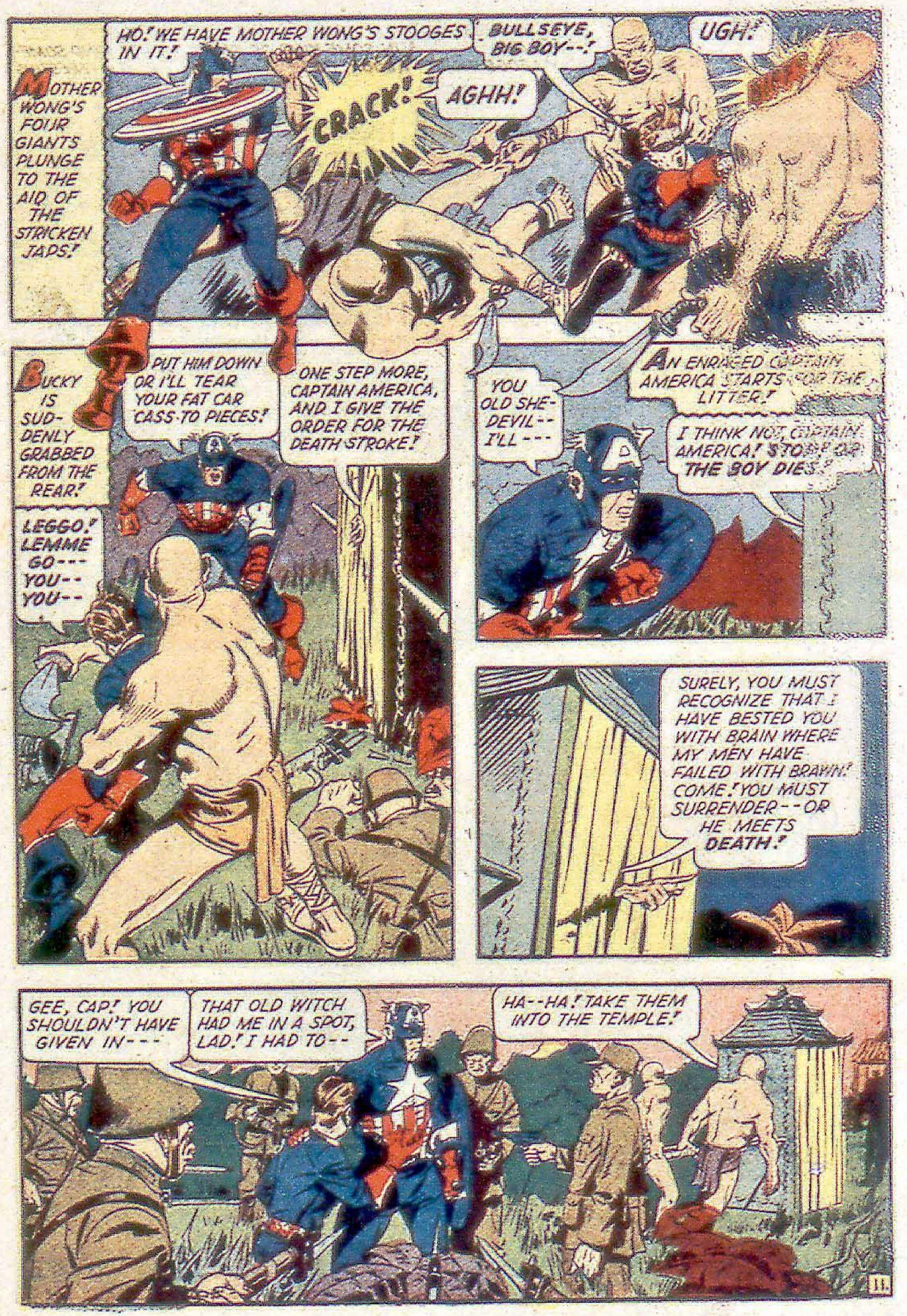

YOU DO NOT HAVE CHANCE OF ESCAPE, CAPTAIN AMERICA! OFFER YOU HONORABLE SURRENDER! APPROACH WITH HANDS IN THE AIR!
DON'T MAKE US LAUGH! WE KNOW YOUR KIND OF HONORABE SURRENDER!
IF YOU WANT US...YOU'LL HAVE TO COME AND GET US, YOU YELLOW BELLIED, CRUMMY RATS!
THE NIPS PROBABLY THINK WE HAVE GUNS AND WON'T RUSH US! BUT SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL REALIZE WE HAVEN'T!
YEAH! SO HOW DO WE GET PAST THAT LITTLE DETAIL?
CAPTAIN AMERICA OUTLINES A PERILOUS PLAN OF ESCAPE!
THE OVERHANGING BANK RUNS ALONG TO WHERE THE RIVER TURNS INTO THE JUNGLE! I'M GOING AFTER THE TWO NIPS THAT SHOUTED TO US!
FINE! AND WHAT ABOUT ME?
YOUR'S IS A MORE DANGEROUS TASK, LAD! YOU MUST MOVE THE OTHER WAY AND DRAW THEIR FIRE! IF I CAN GET THE TWO NIPS...PERHAPS I CAN USE THEM AS HOSTAGES FOR YOUR SAFETY!
ANYTHING YOU SAY, CAP!
BE CAREFUL, BUCKY! AND GOOD LUCK-IF I DON'T MAKE IT....
(GULP) AW, G'WAN! RELAX! YOU'LL MAKE IT...! WE'VE BEEN IN TOUGHER SPOTS! GET GOING!
MOMENTS LATER...THE PLAN IS IN OPERATION!
WATCH THEM! THEY MOVE DOWN THE RIVER TO THE RIGHT!
HOPE THIS IS ENOUGH NOISE! OOPS! IT IS!
WHAT A LAD! PERFECT! I THINK I CAN MAKE A DASH WITHOUT BEING SEEN, NOW!
MADE IT! NOW TO CIRCLE BACK AND GET AFTER THOSE TWO NIPS!

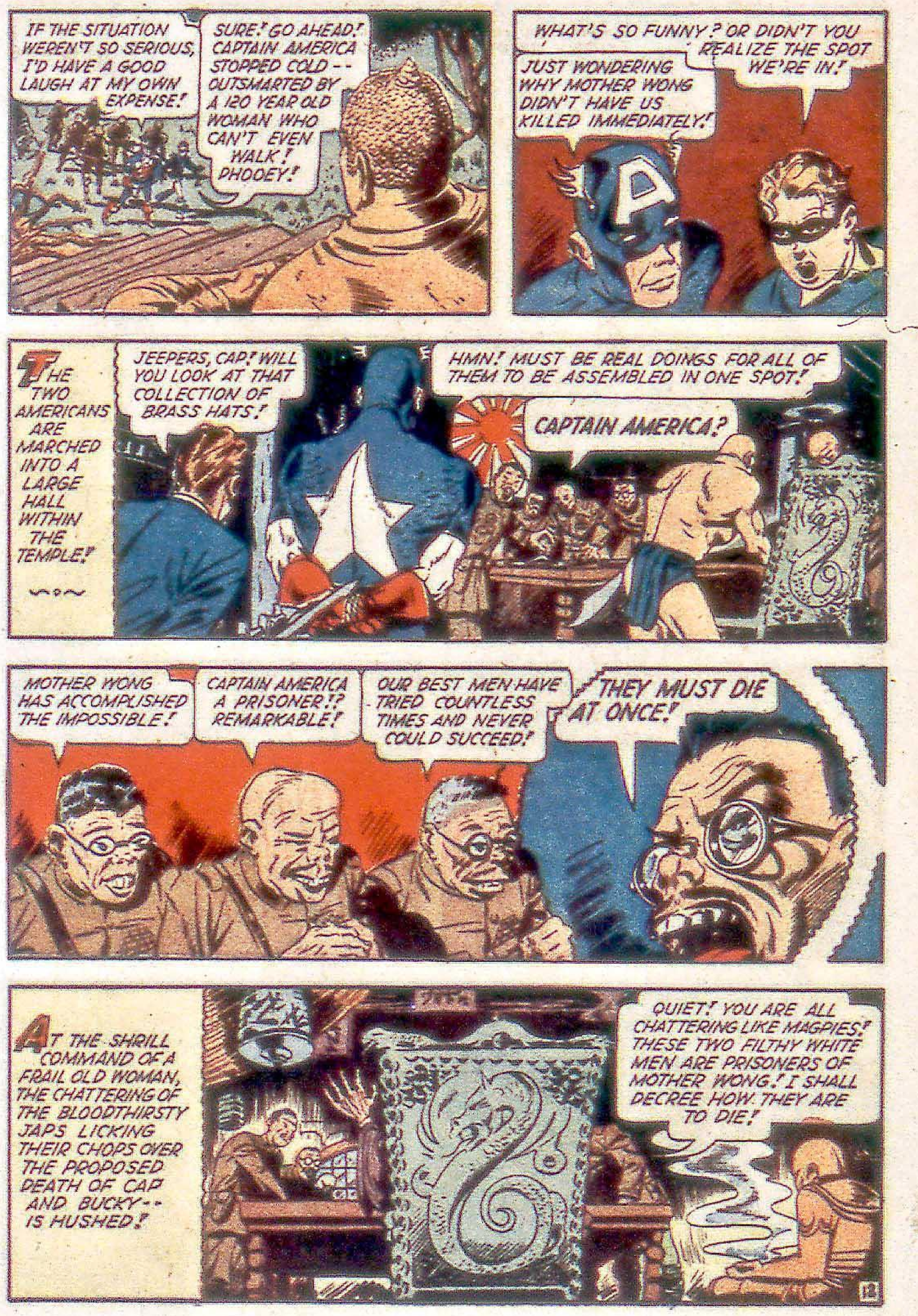

(GULP) HOPE BUCKY IS ALL RIGHT! THEY'RE POURING IT ON TOWARD THE LAD! A FEW MORE FEET---
JUST WHEN CAP IS WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE, HE STARTLES A HORDE OF MONKEYS WHO SET UP A CHATTERING THAT WARNS THE TWO JAP OFFICERS!
OF ALL THE LUCK! NOW I'M IN FOR IT!
IT IS CAPTAIN AMERICA!--- THERE IN THE BUSH! SHOOT!
WHA--?!
THERE HE IS, SHOOT! SHOOT!
THEY CORNERED CAP! HE HASN'T A CHANCE WITH THOSE TWO NIPS ON THE GROUND PLUS THE TWO SNIPERS SPOTTING HIM FROM THE TREES!
CAP MAKES A DESPERATE BREAK--BU IS STOPPED BY A HAIL OF FIRE!
YOW! ALMOST GOT ME! HOPE BUCKY GETS AWAY! NOW THAT THEY'RE BUSY WITH ME!
HA! HE IS CORNERE KEEP SHOOTING! WE NOT WANT HIM ALIV
BUCKY THROWS CAUTION TO THE WINDS AND RACES FOR THE JUNGLE IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION!
I GOT TO DO SOMETHING--AND WILL!
ONCE IN THE JUNGLE--- BUCKY CIRCLES AND COMES UP IN BACK OF ONE OF THE JAP SNIPERS!
HERE GOES! HOPE HE DON'T DROP THAT RIFLE WHEN I HIT HIM!

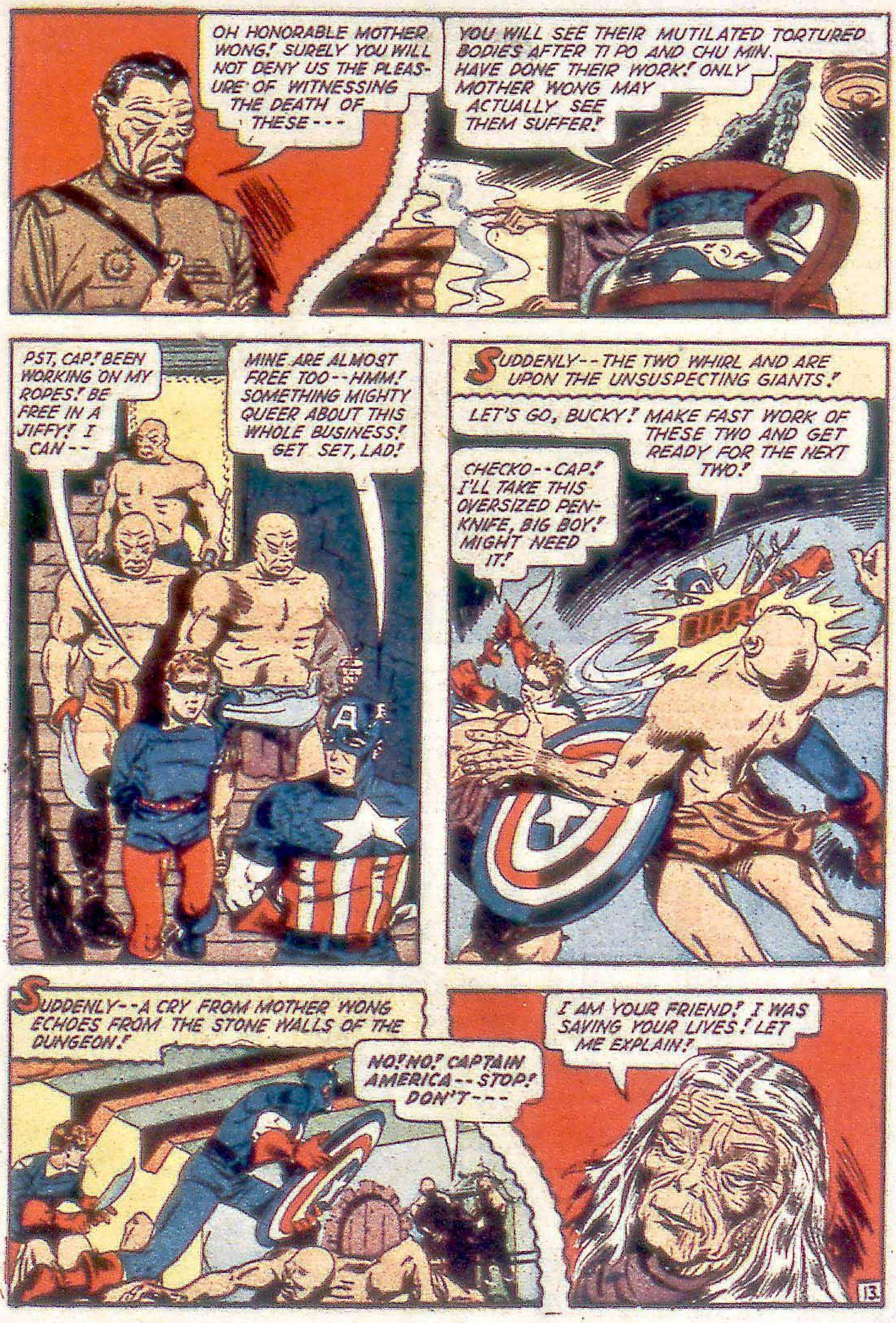

BUCKY FLASHES THRU THE AIR IN A PERFECT LEAP AND DOWN ON THE JAP SNIPER HIGH IN THE TREE!
WOOF-- OOPS!
YIPEE! I GOT THE GUN!
A DETERMINED BUCKY MAKES SHORT WORK OF THE JAP SNIPER!
DOWN YOU GO, RAT! NOW WE'LL SHOW YOUR BROTHER RATS WHAT REAL SNIPING IS!
I CAN JUST SEE THE OTHER SNIPER! SLOW AND EASY IT IS ON THE TRIGGER! I CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS FOR CAP'S SAKE!
AH-AH-EEE!
STRAIGHT TO THE MARK SPEEDS BUCKY'S SHOT!
SECONDS LATER--BUCKY TURNS HIS FIRE ON THE TWO JAPS STALKING CAP----
YAI-EE!
RUN! THEY HAVE REINFORCEMENTS!
WHAT THE--?? SOMEONE SHOT THAT JAP SNIPER OUT OF THE TREE AND NOW GOT ONE OF THE JAPS--?? AND THAT SOMEONE CAN ONLY BE BUCKY!

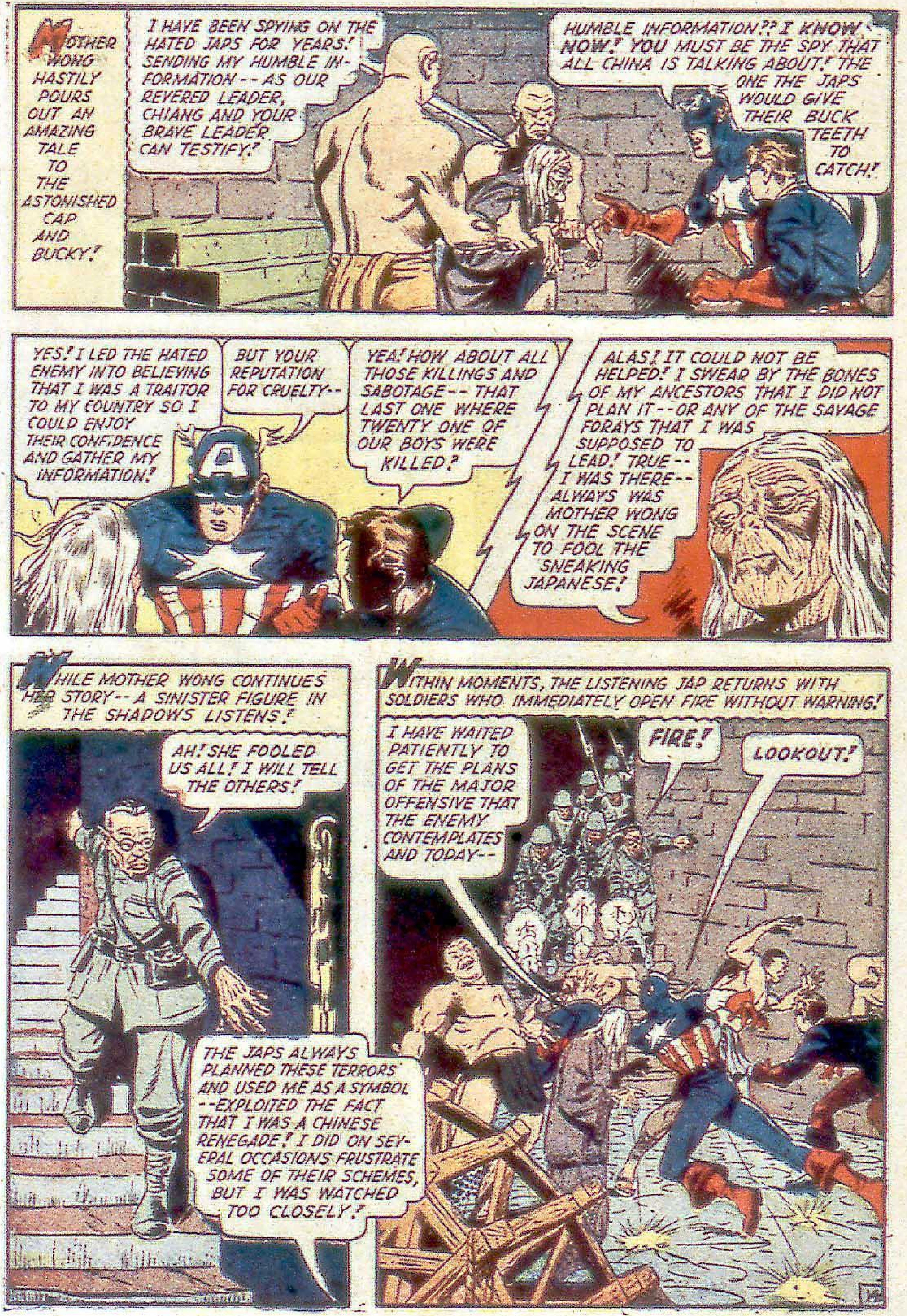

H'YA CAP! WHERE YOU BEEN DURING ALL THE EXCITEMENT?
THANKS, YOU CONCEITED PUP!
WHAT A LAD! ONE IN A MILLION!
MINUTES LATER--THE TWO ARE ONCE AGAIN ON THE TRAIL OF MOTHER WONG!
WE'LL STAY AWAY FROM THE TRAIL AND CUT OUR WAY THRU--JUST IN CASE SOME MORE NIPS ARE SNIPING FOR US!
OUGHT TO REACH THOSE FALLS SOON! LOOKED PRETTY CLOSE WHEN I SPOTTED FROM THE TREE TOP!
LATER--CAP AND BUCKY FIND THE FALLS AND START ACROSS A FLIMSY BRIDGE SUPPORTED BY VINES!
THIS BRIDGE LEADS TO THE TOP OF THE FALLS AND THE TEMPLE SHOULDN'T BE FAR!
I AIN'T EXACTLY TOO ANXIOUS TO GET THERE, CAP! NOT THE WAY THIS EXCUSE FOR A BRIDGE IS SWINGING AND SWAYING!
CAP, LOOK! JAPS! AND THEY'RE CUTTING THE BRIDGE! LET'S MAKE A DASH FOR THE OTHER SIDE!
NO TIME, LAD! HOLD ON TO THE RAIL WHEN SHE TEARS LOOSE AND LET GO JUST BEFORE YOU REACH THE FALLS!
CAP AND BUCKY, GRIPPING THE VINE RAILS OF THE BRIDGE, WHICH SWINGS LIKE A GIANT PENDULUM, LOOSE THEIR HOLD AND SAIL THRU THE AIR IN A BREATH-TAKING ARC, TOWARD THE CASCADING TORRENT UNDER THE FROWNING CLIFFS!
9

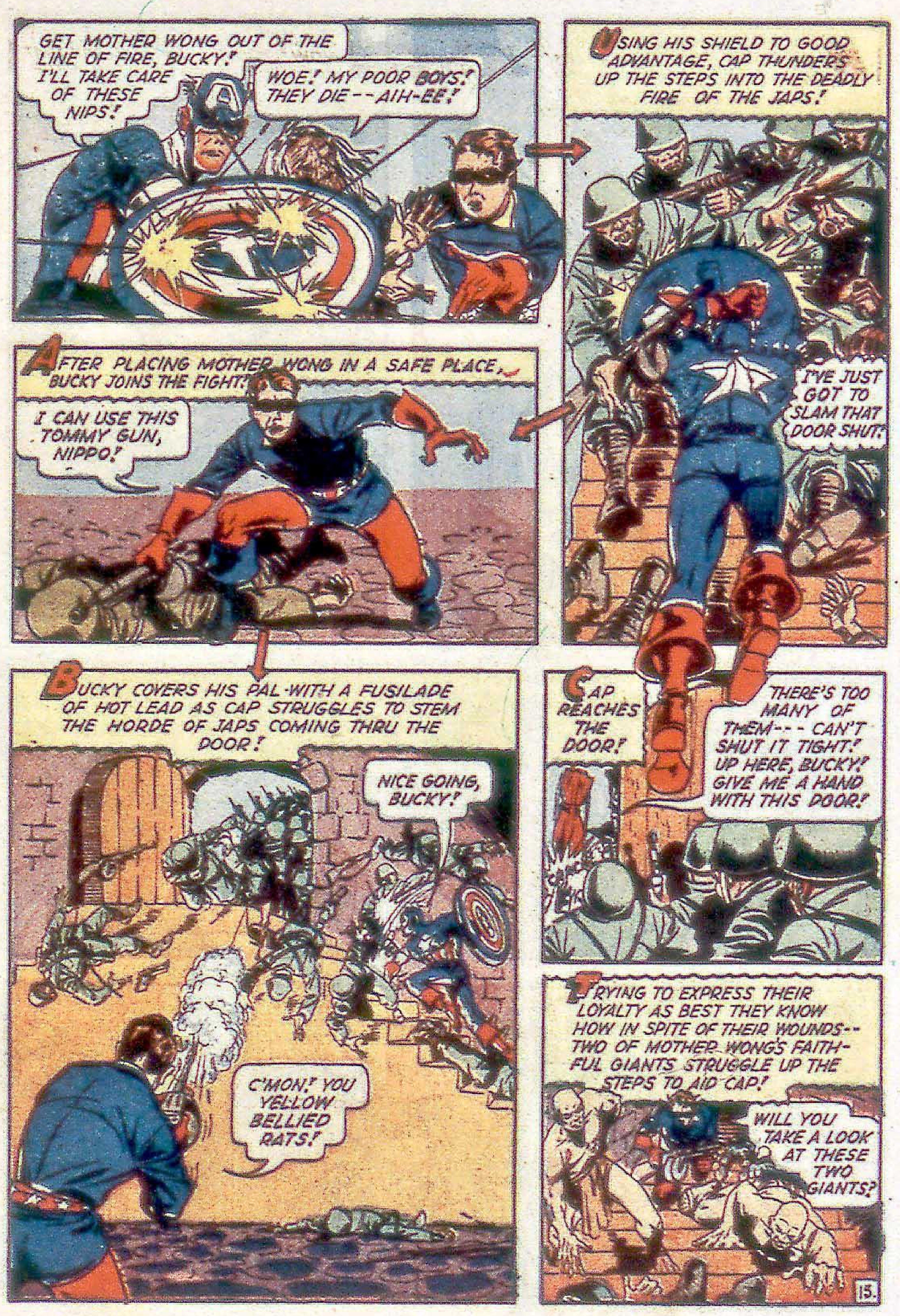

CARRIED THRU THE FALLS BY THE MOMENTUM OF THEIR SWING, CAP AND BUCKY LAND STUNNED AND BRUISED ON A ROCKY LEDGE UNDER THE FALLS!
(GLUB--GLUG) YOUCH!
OOPS! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, BUCKY?
I-I GUESS SO! WE LANDED IN SOME KIND OF CAVE! LOOK, THERE'S DAYLIGHT SHOWING AT THE FAR END!
I HAVE A HUNCH WE'LL FIND SOMETHING INTERESTING WHEN WE GET OUT OF HERE!
MINUTES LATER-- THEY EMERGE INTO THE SUNLIGHT AND BEHOLD THE HIDDEN TEMPLE!
YIPEE! THIS IS IT! MOTHER WONG'S HIDEOUT!
SO IT SEEMS FROM THE---LOOK-OUT, BUCKY!
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY MEET THE RUSH OF THE JAPS AND WITHIN MINUTES, THE GROUND IS STREWN WITH THE BATTERED AND GROANING ENEMY--BUT FROM THE TEMPLE COMES THE FOUR GIANTS CARRYING MOTHER WONG---!
YAHOO!
LET 'EM HAVE IT, BUCKY--- BUT GOOD!
UGH-YAIH!
OOF!
AWRK-OOF!

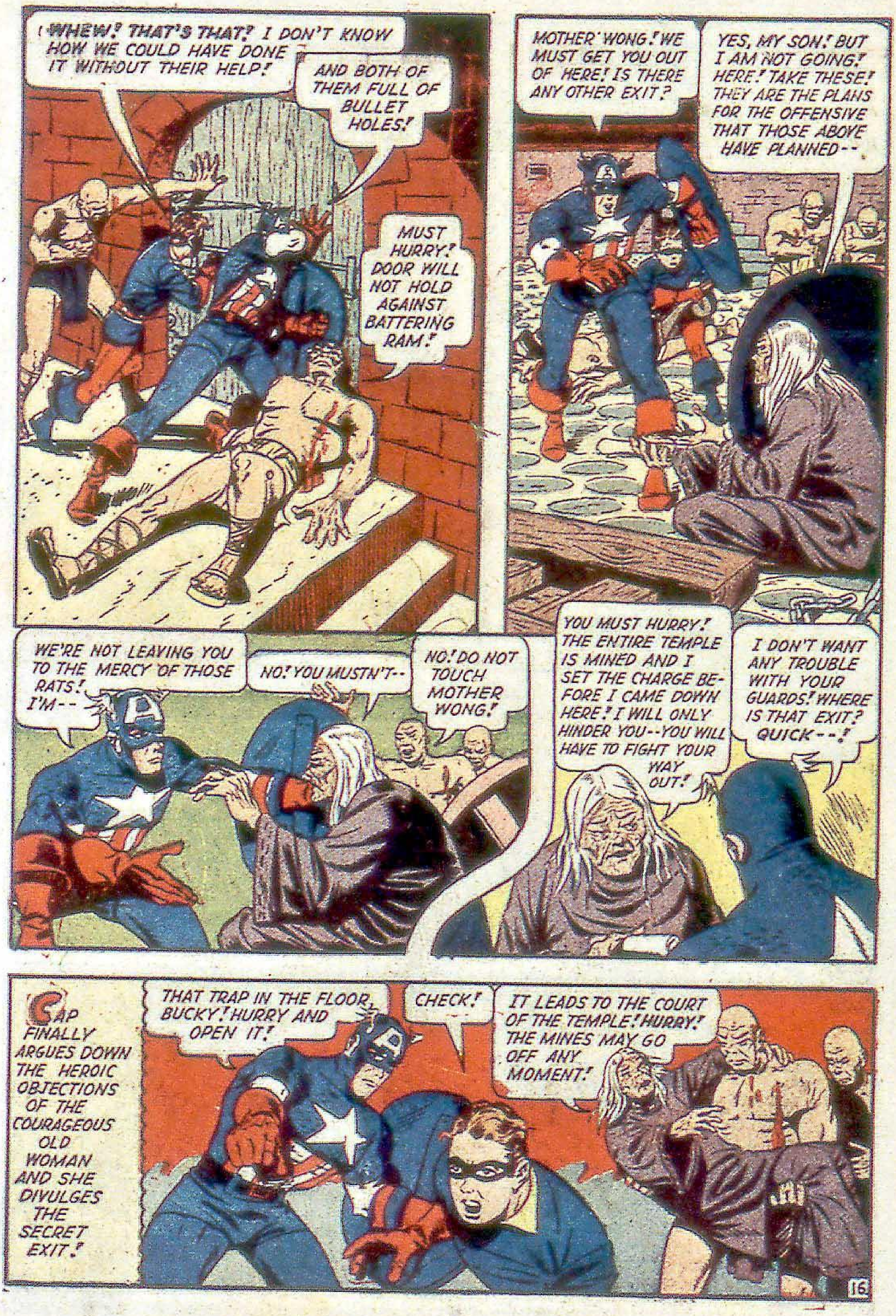

MOTHER WONG'S FOUR GIANTS PLUNGE TO THE AID OF THE STRICKEN JAPS!
HO! WE HAVE MOTHER WONG'S STOOGES IN IT!
CRACK!
AGHH!
BULLSEYE, BIG BOY--!
UGH!
BUCKY IS SUDDENLY GRABBED FROM THE REAR!
PUT HIM DOWN OR I'LL TEAR YOUR FAT CARCASS TO PIECES!
ONE STEP MORE, CAPTAIN AMERICA, AND I GIVE THE ORDER FOR THE DEATH STROKE!
LEGGO! LEMME GO--- YOU-- YOU--
AN ENRAGED CAPTAIN AMERICA STARTS FOR THE LITTER!
YOU OLD SHE-DEVIL-- I'LL ---
I THINK NOT, CAPTAIN AMERICA! STOP OR THE BOY DIES!
SURELY, YOU MUST RECOGNIZE THAT I HAVE BESTED YOU WITH BRAIN WHERE MY MEN HAVE FAILED WITH BRAWN! COME! YOU MUST SURRENDER--OR HE MEETS DEATH!
GEE, CAP! YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN IN---
THAT OLD WITCH HAD ME IN A SPOT, LAD! I HAD TO--
HA--HA! TAKE THEM INTO THE TEMPLE!

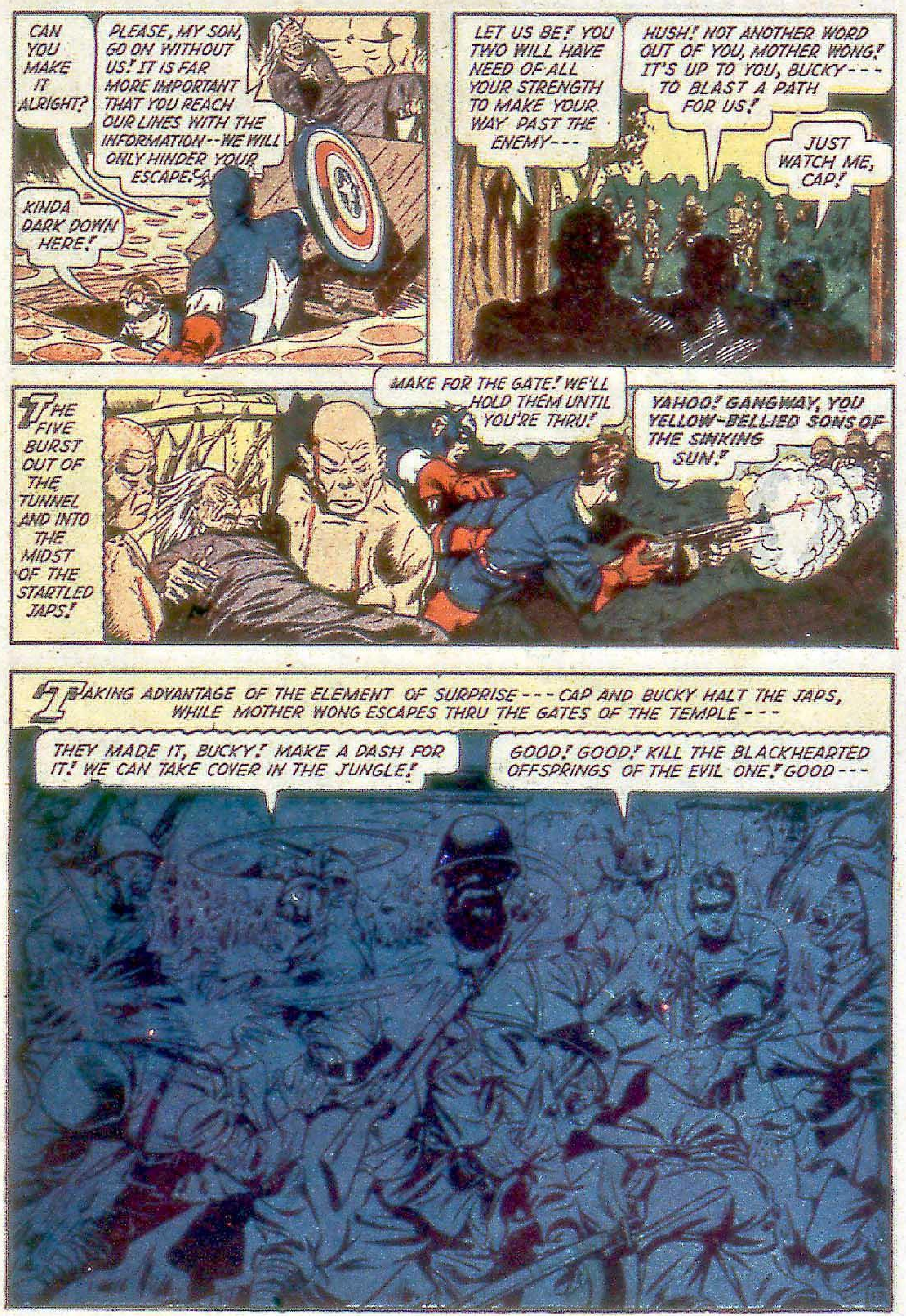

IF THE SITUATION WEREN'T SO SERIOUS, I'D HAVE A GOOD LAUGH AT MY OWN EXPENSE!
SURE! GO AHEAD! CAPTAIN AMERICA STOPPED COLD-- OUTSMARTED BY A 120 YEAR OLD WOMAN WHO CAN'T EVEN WALK! PHOOEY!
WHAT'S SO FUNNY? OR DIDN'T YOU REALIZE THE SPOT WE'RE IN!
JUST WONDERING WHY MOTHER WONG DIDN'T HAVE US KILLED IMMEDIATELY!
THE TWO AMERICANS ARE MARCHED INTO A LARGE HALL WITHIN THE TEMPLE!
JEEPERS, CAP! WILL YOU LOOK AT THAT COLLECTION OF BRASS HATS!
HMN! MUST BE REAL DOINGS FOR ALL OF THEM TO BE ASSEMBLED IN ONE SPOT!
CAPTAIN AMERICA?
MOTHER WONG HAS ACCOMPLISHED THE IMPOSSIBLE!
CAPTAIN AMERICA A PRISONER!? REMARKABLE!
OUR BEST MEN HAVE TRIED COUNTLESS TIMES AND NEVER COULD SUCCEED!
THEY MUST DIE AT ONCE!
AT THE SHRILL COMMAND OF A FRAIL OLD WOMAN, THE CHATTERING OF THE BLOODTHIRSTY JAPS LICKING THEIR CHOPS OVER THE PROPOSED DEATH OF CAP AND BUCKY-- IS HUSHED!
QUIET! YOU ARE ALL CHATTERING LIKE MAGPIES! THESE TWO FILTHY WHITE MEN ARE PRISONERS OF MOTHER WONG! I SHALL DECREE HOW THEY ARE TO DIE!
12

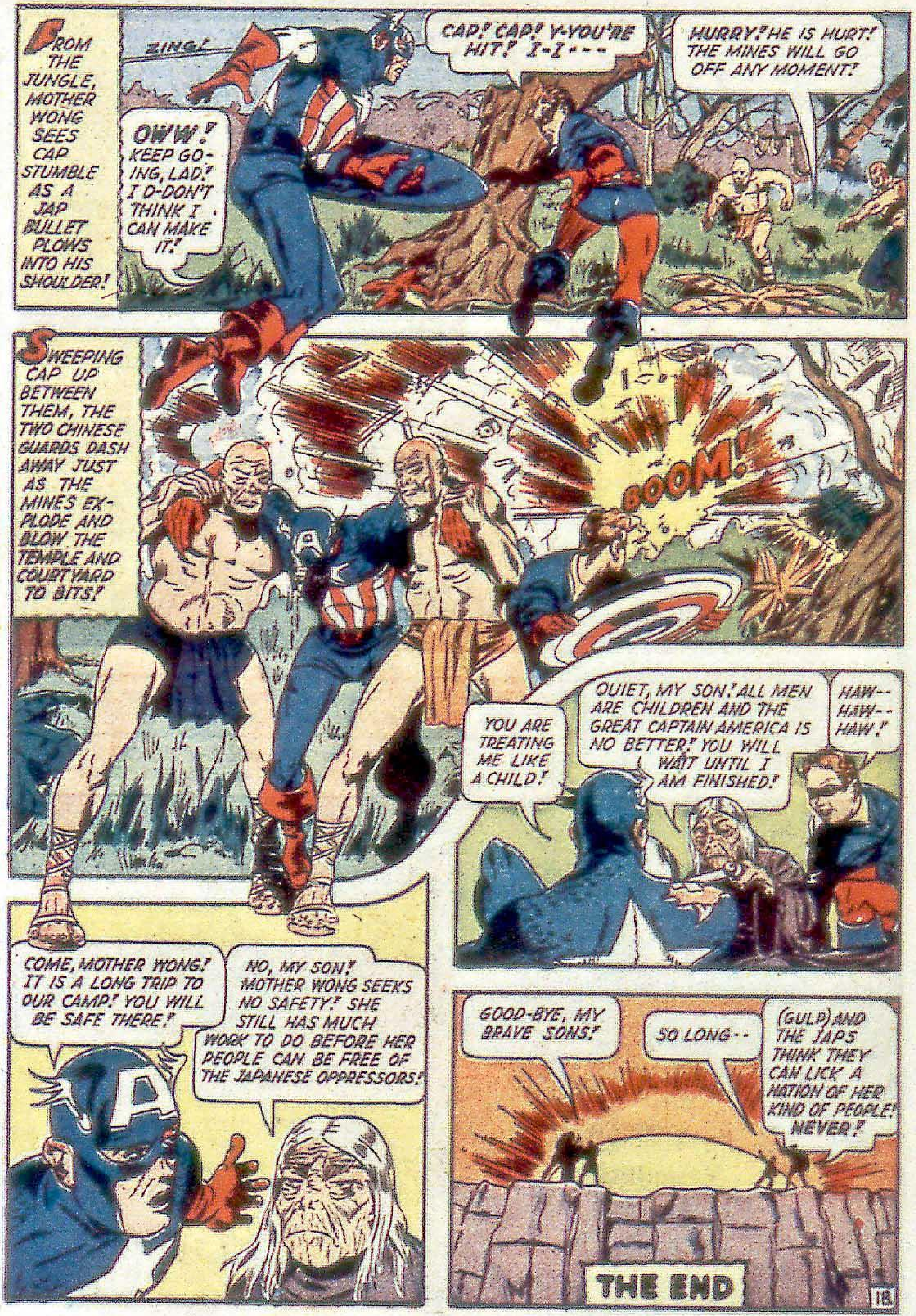

OH HONORABLE MOTHER WONG! SURELY YOU WILL NOT DENY US THE PLEASURE OF WITNESSING THE DEATH OF THESE---
YOU WILL SEE THEIR MUTILATED TORTURED BODIES AFTER TI PO AND CHU MIN HAVE DONE THEIR WORK! ONLY MOTHER WONG MAY ACTUALLY SEE THEM SUFFER!
PST, CAP! BEEN WORKING ON MY ROPES! BE FREE IN A JIFFY! I CAN--
MINE ARE ALMOST FREE TOO--HMM! SOMETHING MIGHTY QUEER ABOUT THIS WHOLE BUSINESS! GET SET, LAD!
SUDDENLY--THE TWO WHIRL AND ARE UPON THE UNSUSPECTING GIANTS!
LET'S GO, BUCKY! MAKE FAST WORK OF THESE TWO AND GET READY FOR THE NEXT TWO!
CHECKO--CAP! I'LL TAKE THIS OVERSIZED PENKNIFE, BIG BOY! MIGHT NEED IT!
BIFF!
SUDDENLY--A CRY FROM MOTHER WONG ECHOES FROM THE STONE WALLS OF THE DUNGEON!
NO! NO! CAPTAIN AMERICA--STOP! DON'T---
I AM YOUR FRIEND! I WAS SAVING YOUR LIVES! LET ME EXPLAIN!

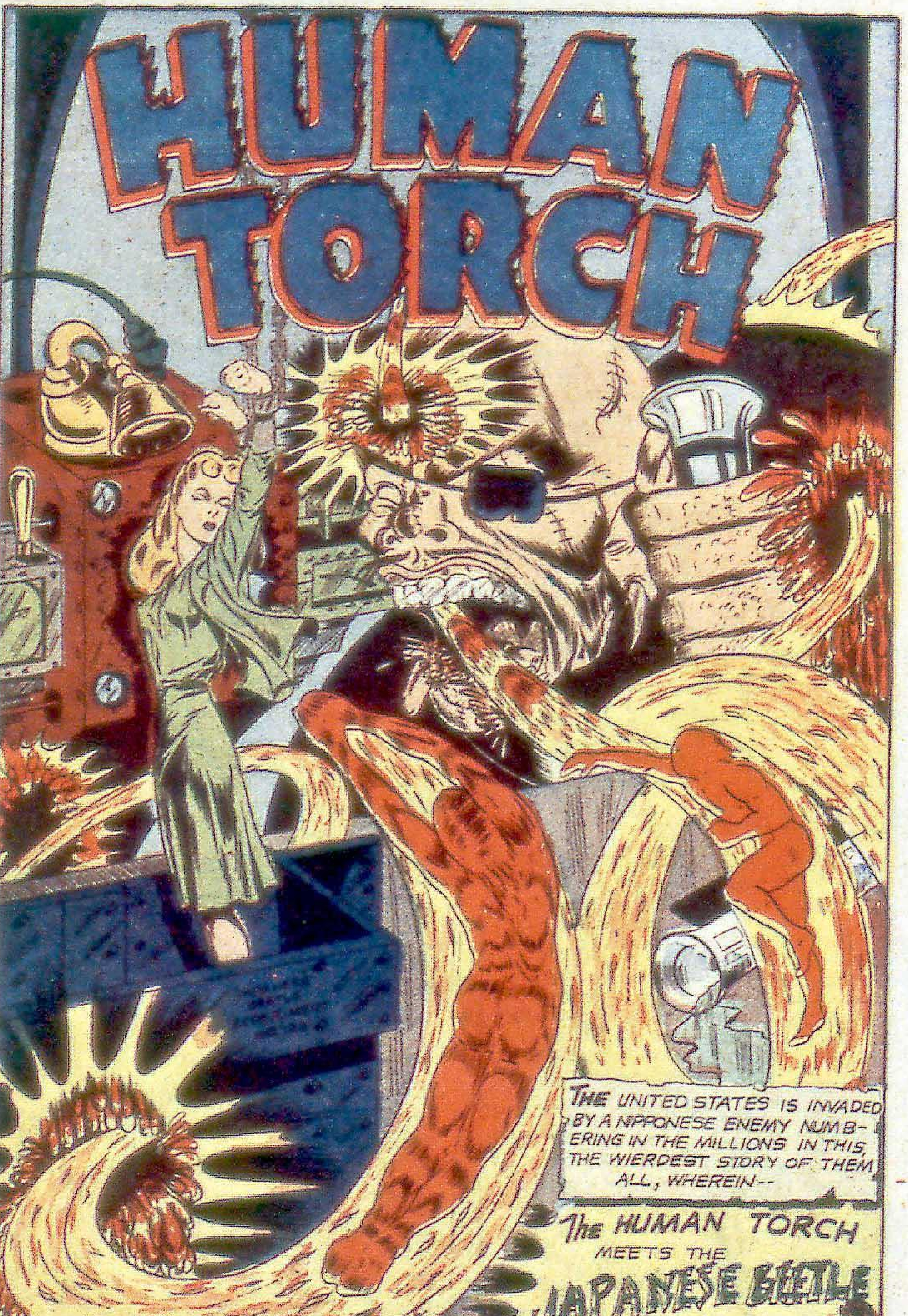

MOTHER WONG HASTILY POURS OUT AN AMAZING TALE TO THE ASTONISHED CAP AND BUCKY!
I HAVE BEEN SPYING ON THE HATED JAPS FOR YEARS! SENDING MY HUMBLE INFORMATION -- AS OUR REVERED LEADER, CHIANG AND YOUR BRAVE LEADER CAN TESTIFY!
HUMBLE INFORMATION?? I KNOW NOW! YOU MUST BE THE SPY THAT ALL CHINA IS TALKING ABOUT! THE ONE THE JAPS WOULD GIVE THEIR BUCK TEETH TO CATCH!
YES! I LED THE HATED ENEMY INTO BELIEVING THAT I WAS A TRAITOR TO MY COUNTRY SO I COULD ENJOY THEIR CONFIDENCE AND GATHER MY INFORMATION!
BUT YOUR REPUTATION FOR CRUELTY--
YEA! HOW ABOUT ALL THOSE KILLINGS AND SABOTAGE -- THAT LAST ONE WHERE TWENTY ONE OF OUR BOYS WERE KILLED?
ALAS! IT COULD NOT BE HELPED! I SWEAR BY THE BONES OF MY ANCESTORS THAT I DID NOT PLAN IT -- OR ANY OF THE SAVAGE FORAYS THAT I WAS SUPPOSED TO LEAD! TRUE -- I WAS THERE -- ALWAYS WAS MOTHER WONG ON THE SCENE TO FOOL THE SNEAKING JAPANESE!
WHILE MOTHER WONG CONTINUES HER STORY -- A SINISTER FIGURE IN THE SHADOWS LISTENS!
AH! SHE FOOLED US ALL! I WILL TELL THE OTHERS!
THE JAPS ALWAYS PLANNED THESE TERRORS AND USED ME AS A SYMBOL -- EXPLOITED THE FACT THAT I WAS A CHINESE RENEGADE! I DID ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS FRUSTRATE SOME OF THEIR SCHEMES, BUT I WAS WATCHED TOO CLOSELY!
WITHIN MOMENTS, THE LISTENING JAP RETURNS WITH SOLDIERS WHO IMMEDIATELY OPEN FIRE WITHOUT WARNING!
I HAVE WAITED PATIENTLY TO GET THE PLANS OF THE MAJOR OFFENSIVE THAT THE ENEMY CONTEMPLATES AND TODAY--
FIRE!
LOOKOUT!

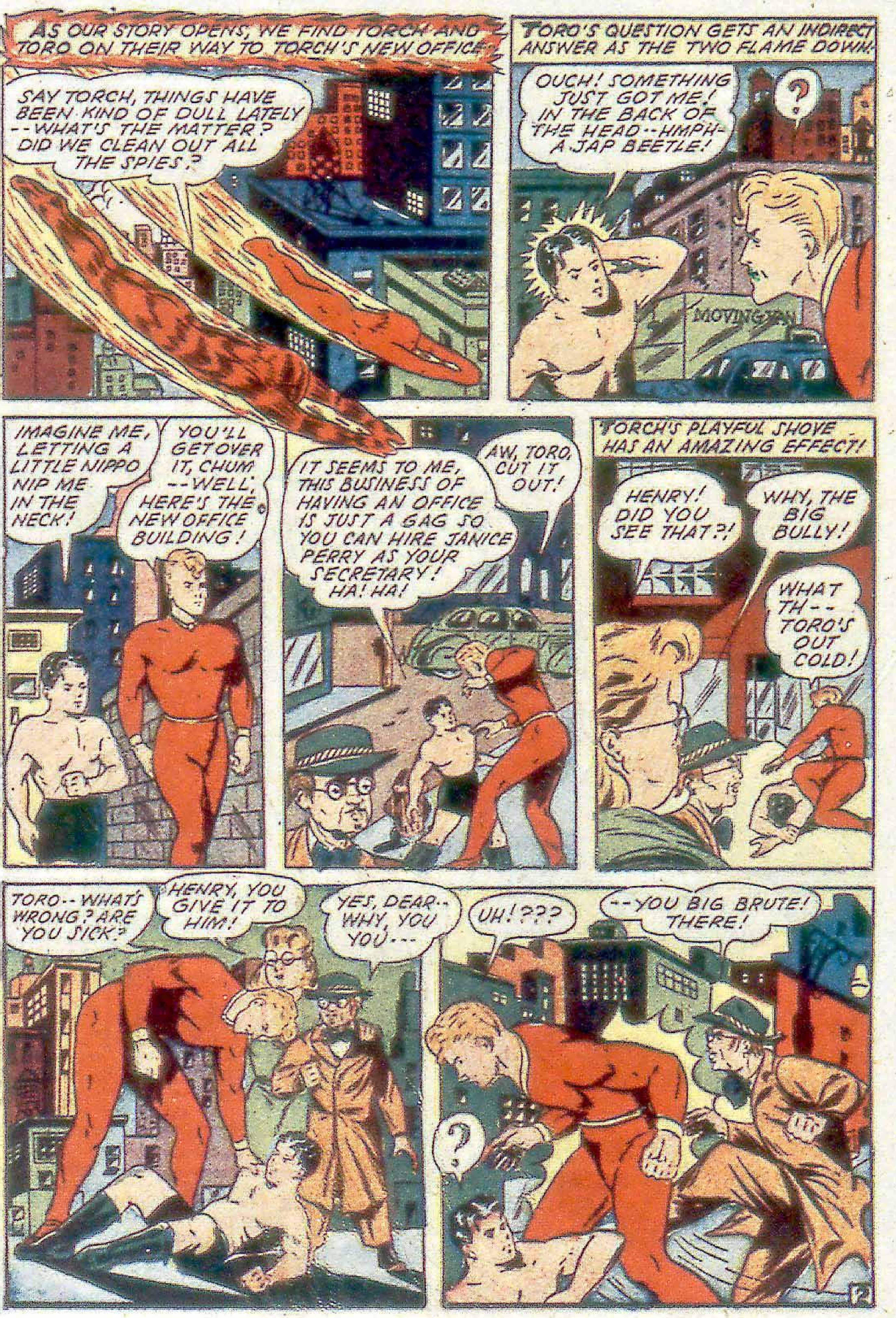

GET MOTHER WONG OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE, BUCKY! I'LL TAKE CARE OF THESE NIPS!
WOE! MY POOR BOYS! THEY DIE--AIH-EE!
USING HIS SHIELD TO GOOD ADVANTAGE, CAP THUNDERS UP THE STEPS INTO THE DEADLY FIRE OF THE JAPS!
I'VE JUST GOT TO SLAM THAT DOOR SHUT!
AFTER PLACING MOTHER WONG IN A SAFE PLACE, BUCKY JOINS THE FIGHT!
I CAN USE THIS TOMMY GUN, NIPPO!
BUCKY COVERS HIS PAL WITH A FUSILADE OF HOT LEAD AS CAP STRUGGLES TO STEM THE HORDE OF JAPS COMING THRU THE DOOR!
NICE GOING, BUCKY!
C'MON! YOU YELLOW BELLIED RATS!
CAP REACHES THE DOOR!
THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM---CAN'T SHUT IT TIGHT! UP HERE, BUCKY! GIVE ME A HAND WITH THIS DOOR!
TRYING TO EXPRESS THEIR LOYALTY AS BEST THEY KNOW HOW IN SPITE OF THEIR WOUNDS--TWO OF MOTHER WONG'S FAITHFUL GIANTS STRUGGLE UP THE STEPS TO AID CAP!
WILL YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THESE TWO GIANTS?

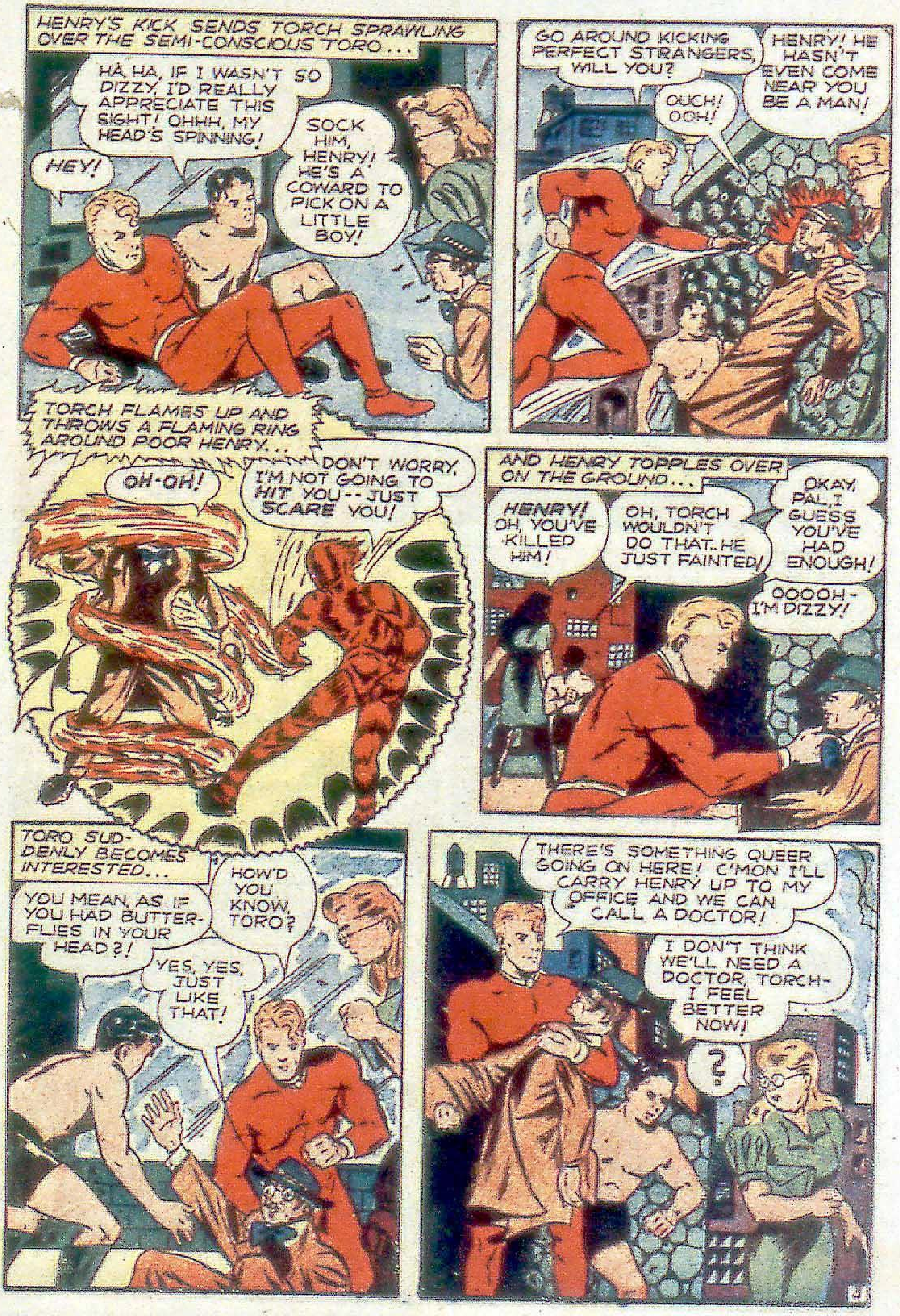

WHEW! THAT'S THAT! I DON'T KNOW HOW WE COULD HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT THEIR HELP!
AND BOTH OF THEM FULL OF BULLET HOLES!
MUST HURRY! DOOR WILL NOT HOLD AGAINST BATTERING RAM!
MOTHER WONG! WE MUST GET YOU OUT OF HERE! IS THERE ANY OTHER EXIT?
YES, MY SON! BUT I AM NOT GOING! HERE! TAKE THESE! THEY ARE THE PLANS FOR THE OFFENSIVE THAT THOSE ABOVE HAVE PLANNED--
WE'RE NOT LEAVING YOU TO THE MERCY OF THOSE RATS! I'M--
NO! YOU MUSTN'T--
NO! DO NOT TOUCH MOTHER WONG!
YOU MUST HURRY! THE ENTIRE TEMPLE IS MINED AND I SET THE CHARGE BEFORE I CAME DOWN HERE! I WILL ONLY HINDER YOU--YOU WILL HAVE TO FIGHT YOUR WAY OUT!
I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE WITH YOUR GUARDS! WHERE IS THAT EXIT? QUICK--!
CAP FINALLY ARGUES DOWN THE HEROIC OBJECTIONS OF THE COURAGEOUS OLD WOMAN AND SHE DIVULGES THE SECRET EXIT!
THAT TRAP IN THE FLOOR, BUCKY! HURRY AND OPEN IT!
CHECK!
IT LEADS TO THE COURT OF THE TEMPLE! HURRY! THE MINES MAY GO OFF ANY MOMENT!

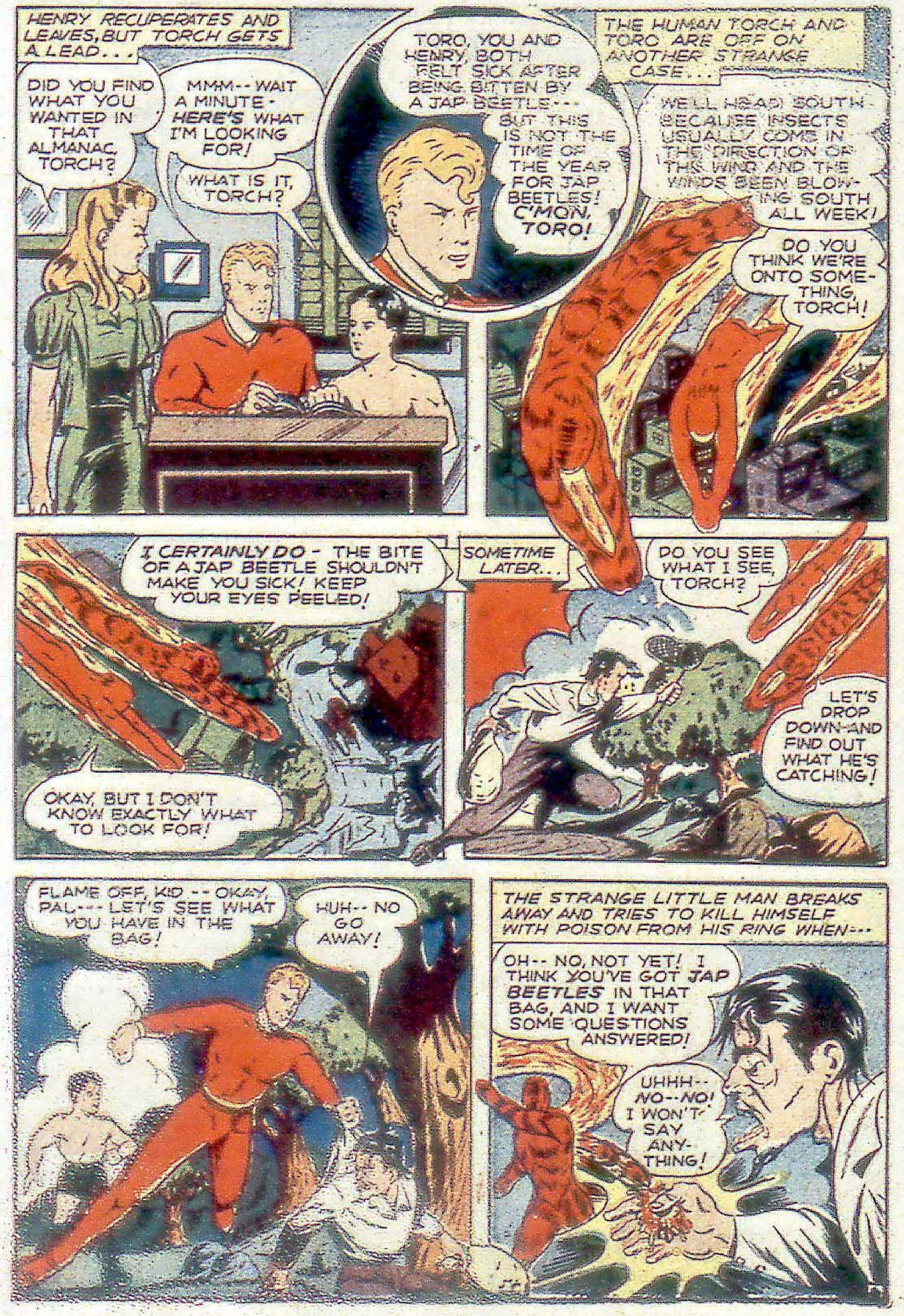

CAN YOU MAKE IT ALRIGHT?
PLEASE, MY SON, GO ON WITHOUT US! IT IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAT YOU REACH OUR LINES WITH THE INFORMATION--WE WILL ONLY HINDER YOUR ESCAPE!
KINDA DARK DOWN HERE!
LET US BE! YOU TWO WILL HAVE NEED OF ALL YOUR STRENGTH TO MAKE YOUR WAY PAST THE ENEMY---
HUSH! NOT ANOTHER WORD OUT OF YOU, MOTHER WONG! IT'S UP TO YOU, BUCKY--- TO BLAST A PATH FOR US!
JUST WATCH ME, CAP!
THE FIVE BURST OUT OF THE TUNNEL AND INTO THE MIDST OF THE STARTLED JAPS!
MAKE FOR THE GATE! WE'LL HOLD THEM UNTIL YOU'RE THRU!
YAHOO! GANGWAY, YOU YELLOW-BELLIED SONS OF THE SINKING SUN!
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE---CAP AND BUCKY HALT THE JAPS, WHILE MOTHER WONG ESCAPES THRU THE GATES OF THE TEMPLE---
THEY MADE IT, BUCKY! MAKE A DASH FOR IT! WE CAN TAKE COVER IN THE JUNGLE!
GOOD! GOOD! KILL THE BLACKHEARTED OFFSPRINGS OF THE EVIL ONE! GOOD---

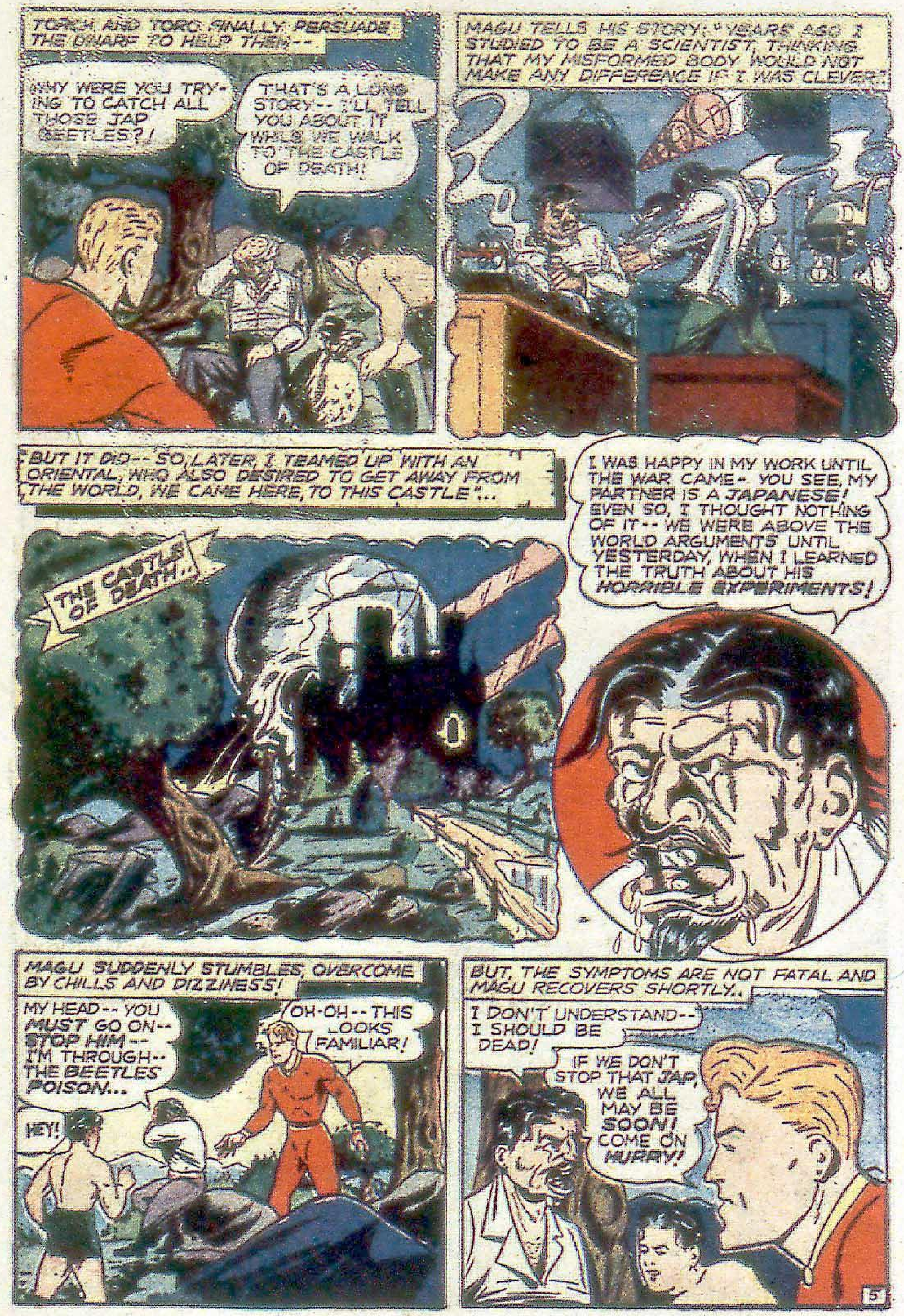

FROM THE JUNGLE, MOTHER WONG SEES CAP STUMBLE AS A JAP BULLET PLOWS INTO HIS SHOULDER!
ZING!
CAP! CAP! Y-YOU'RE HIT! I-I---
OWW! KEEP GO-ING, LAD! I D-DON'T THINK I CAN MAKE IT!
HURRY! HE IS HURT! THE MINES WILL GO OFF ANY MOMENT!
SWEEPING CAP UP BETWEEN THEM, THE TWO CHINESE GUARDS DASH AWAY JUST AS THE MINES EX-PLODE AND BLOW THE TEMPLE AND COURTYARD TO BITS!
BOOM!
YOU ARE TREATING ME LIKE A CHILD!
QUIET, MY SON! ALL MEN ARE CHILDREN AND THE GREAT CAPTAIN AMERICA IS NO BETTER! YOU WILL WAIT UNTIL I AM FINISHED!
HAW-- HAW-- HAW!
COME, MOTHER WONG! IT IS A LONG TRIP TO OUR CAMP! YOU WILL BE SAFE THERE!
NO, MY SON! MOTHER WONG SEEKS NO SAFETY! SHE STILL HAS MUCH WORK TO DO BEFORE HER PEOPLE CAN BE FREE OF THE JAPANESE OPPRESSORS!
GOOD-BYE, MY BRAVE SONS!
SO LONG--
(GULP) AND THE JAPS THINK THEY CAN LICK A NATION OF HER KIND OF PEOPLE! NEVER!
THE END

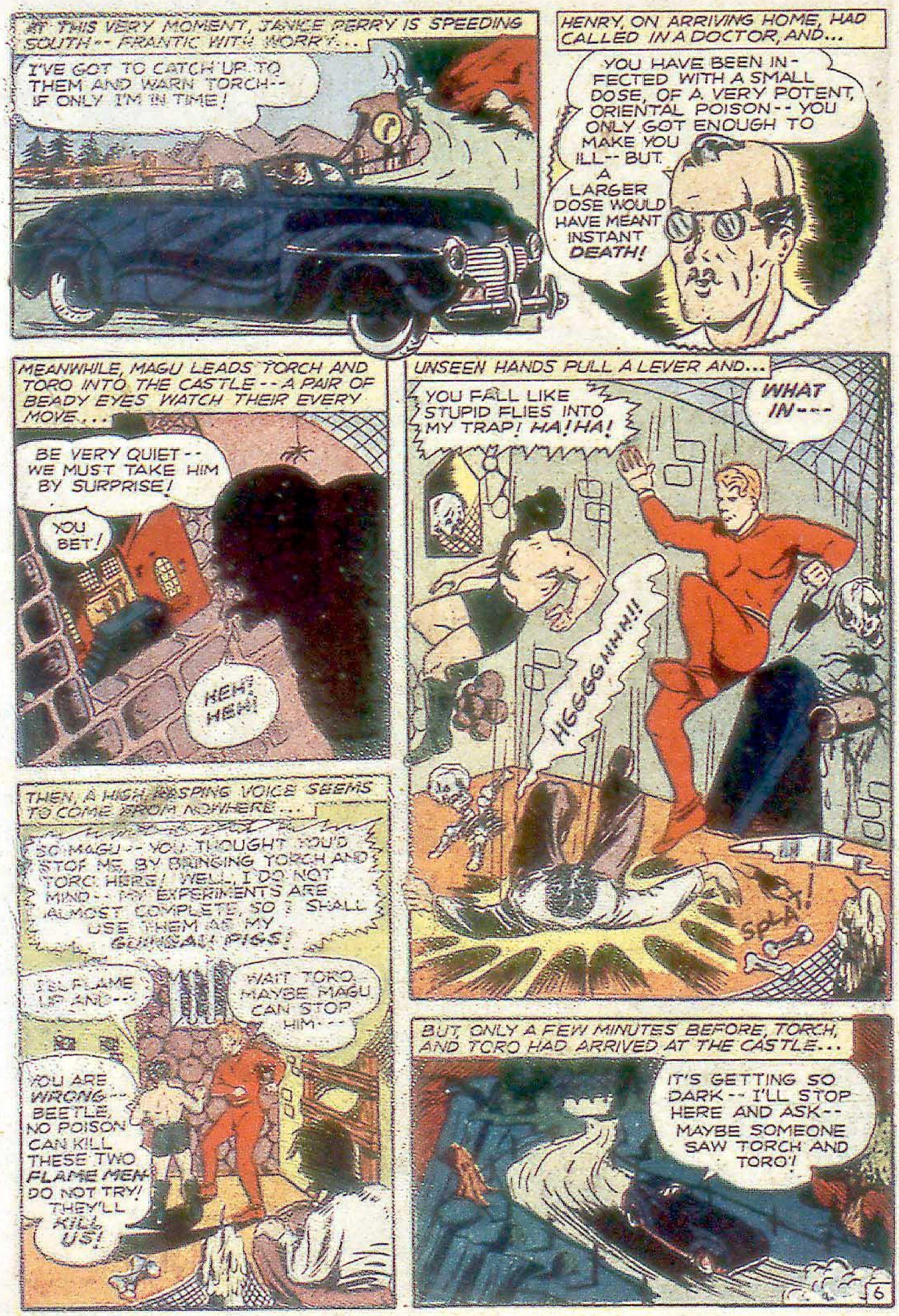

HUMAN TORCH
THE UNITED STATES IS INVADED BY A NPPONESE ENEMY NUMBERING IN THE MILLIONS IN THIS, THE WIERDEST STORY OF THEM ALL, WHEREIN--
The HUMAN TORCH MEETS THE JAPANESE BEETLE

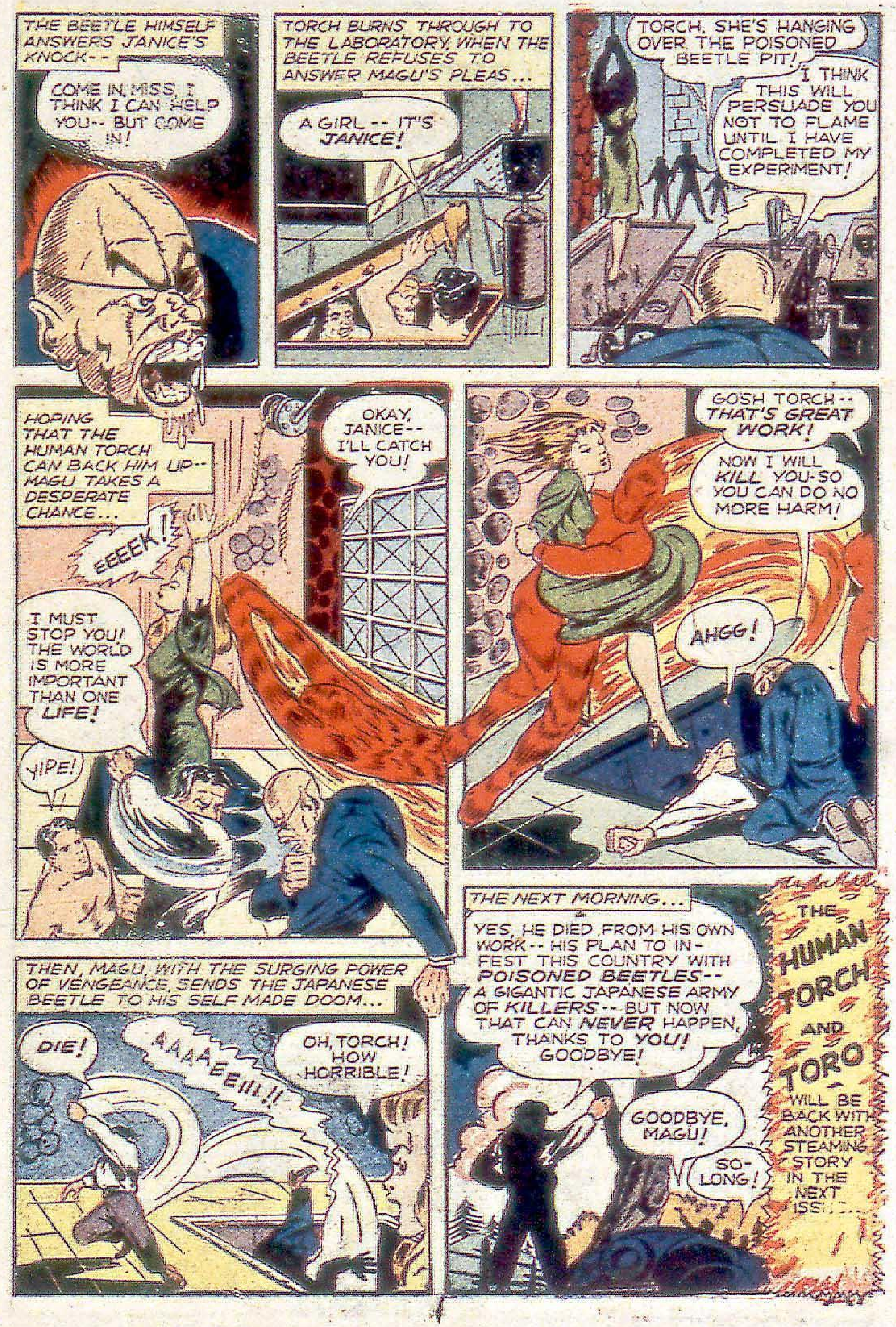

AS OUR STORY OPENS, WE FIND TORCH AND TORO ON THEIR WAY TO TORCH'S NEW OFFICE!
SAY TORCH, THINGS HAVE BEEN KIND OF DULL LATELY --WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID WE CLEAN OUT ALL THE SPIES?
TORO'S QUESTION GETS AN INDIRECT ANSWER AS THE TWO FLAME DOWN!
OUCH! SOMETHING JUST GOT ME! IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD--HMPH-A JAP BEETLE!
?
MOVINGTON
IMAGINE ME, LETTING A LITTLE NIPPO NIP ME IN THE NECK!
YOU'LL GET OVER IT, CHUM --WELL, HERE'S THE NEW OFFICE BUILDING!
IT SEEMS TO ME, THIS BUSINESS OF HAVING AN OFFICE IS JUST A GAG SO YOU CAN HIRE JANICE PERRY AS YOUR SECRETARY! HA! HA!
AW, TORO, CUT IT OUT!
TORCH'S PLAYFUL SHOVE HAS AN AMAZING EFFECT!
HENRY! DID YOU SEE THAT?!
WHY, THE BIG BULLY!
WHAT TH-- TORO'S OUT COLD!
TORO--WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU SICK?
HENRY, YOU GIVE IT TO HIM!
YES, DEAR-- WHY, YOU YOU---
UH!???
--YOU BIG BRUTE! THERE!
?
12


HENRY'S KICK SENDS TORCH SPRAWLING OVER THE SEMI-CONSCIOUS TORO...
HA, HA, IF I WASN'T SO DIZZY, I'D REALLY APPRECIATE THIS SIGHT! OHHH, MY HEAD'S SPINNING!
HEY!
SOCK HIM, HENRY! HE'S A COWARD TO PICK ON A LITTLE BOY!
GO AROUND KICKING PERFECT STRANGERS, WILL YOU?
OUCH! OOH!
HENRY! HE HASN'T EVEN COME NEAR YOU BE A MAN!
TORCH FLAMES UP AND THROWS A FLAMING RING AROUND POOR HENRY...
OH-OH!
DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT GOING TO HIT YOU--JUST SCARE YOU!
AND HENRY TOPPLES OVER ON THE GROUND...
HENRY! OH, YOU'VE KILLED HIM!
OH, TORCH WOULDN'T DO THAT..HE JUST FAINTED!
OKAY, PAL, I GUESS YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH!
OOOOH-I'M DIZZY!
TORO SUDDENLY BECOMES INTERESTED...
YOU MEAN, AS IF YOU HAD BUTTER-FLIES IN YOUR HEAD?!
HOW'D YOU KNOW, TORO?
YES, YES, JUST LIKE THAT!
THERE'S SOMETHING QUEER GOING ON HERE! C'MON I'LL CARRY HENRY UP TO MY OFFICE AND WE CAN CALL A DOCTOR!
I DON'T THINK WE'LL NEED A DOCTOR, TORCH-I FEEL BETTER NOW!
?

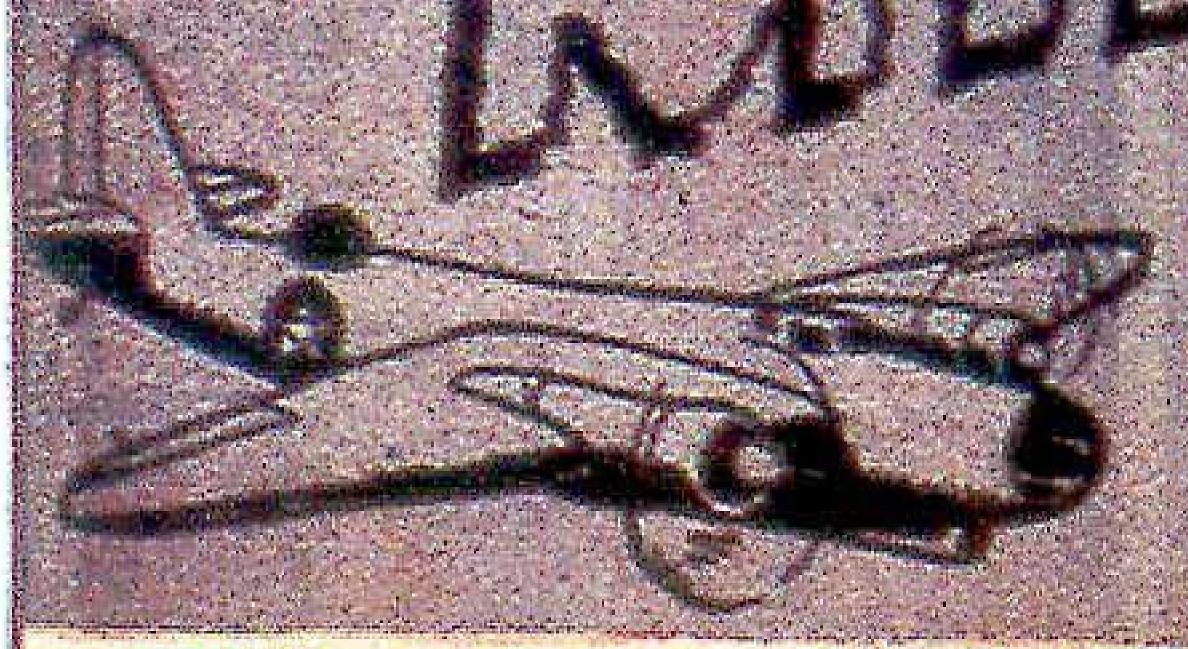

HENRY RECUPERATES AND LEAVES, BUT TORCH GETS A LEAD...
DID YOU FIND WHAT YOU WANTED IN THAT ALMANAC, TORCH?
MMM-- WAIT A MINUTE - HERE'S WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR!
WHAT IS IT, TORCH?
TORO, YOU AND HENRY, BOTH FELT SICK AFTER BEING BITTEN BY A JAP BEETLE---
BUT THIS IS NOT THE TIME OF THE YEAR FOR JAP BEETLES! C'MON, TORO!
THE HUMAN TORCH AND TORO ARE OFF ON ANOTHER STRANGE CASE...
WE'LL HEAD SOUTH BECAUSE INSECTS USUALLY COME IN THE DIRECTION OF THE WIND AND THE WIND'S BEEN BLOWING SOUTH ALL WEEK!
DO YOU THINK WE'RE ONTO SOMETHING, TORCH!
I CERTAINLY DO - THE BITE OF A JAP BEETLE SHOULDN'T MAKE YOU SICK! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!
OKAY, BUT I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT TO LOOK FOR!
SOMETIME LATER...
DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE, TORCH?
LET'S DROP DOWN-AND FIND OUT WHAT HE'S CATCHING!
FLAME OFF, KID -- OKAY, PAL--- LET'S SEE WHAT YOU HAVE IN THE BAG!
HUH-- NO GO AWAY!
THE STRANGE LITTLE MAN BREAKS AWAY AND TRIES TO KILL HIMSELF WITH POISON FROM HIS RING WHEN---
OH-- NO, NOT YET! I THINK YOU'VE GOT JAP BEETLES IN THAT BAG, AND I WANT SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED!
UHHH-- NO--NO! I WON'T SAY ANYTHING!


TORCH AND TORO FINALLY PERSUADE THE DWARF TO HELP THEM--
WHY WERE YOU TRYING TO CATCH ALL THOSE JAP BEETLES?!
THAT'S A LONG STORY-- I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT WHILE WE WALK TO THE CASTLE OF DEATH!
MAGU TELLS HIS STORY: "YEARS AGO I STUDIED TO BE A SCIENTIST, THINKING THAT MY MISFORMED BODY WOULD NOT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IF I WAS CLEVER."
"BUT IT DID-- SO, LATER, I TEAMED UP WITH AN ORIENTAL, WHO ALSO DESIRED TO GET AWAY FROM THE WORLD, WE CAME HERE, TO THIS CASTLE"..
THE CASTLE OF DEATH..
I WAS HAPPY IN MY WORK UNTIL THE WAR CAME- YOU SEE, MY PARTNER IS A JAPANESE! EVEN SO, I THOUGHT NOTHING OF IT-- WE WERE ABOVE THE WORLD ARGUMENTS UNTIL YESTERDAY, WHEN I LEARNED THE TRUTH ABOUT HIS HORRIBLE EXPERIMENTS!
MAGU SUDDENLY STUMBLES, OVERCOME BY CHILLS AND DIZZINESS!
MY HEAD-- YOU MUST GO ON-- STOP HIM-- I'M THROUGH-- THE BEETLES POISON...
OH-OH -- THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR!
HEY!
BUT, THE SYMPTOMS ARE NOT FATAL AND MAGU RECOVERS SHORTLY..
I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- I SHOULD BE DEAD!
IF WE DON'T STOP THAT JAP, WE ALL MAY BE SOON! COME ON HURRY!


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, JANICE PERRY IS SPEEDING SOUTH -- FRANTIC WITH WORRY...
I'VE GOT TO CATCH UP TO THEM AND WARN TORCH -- IF ONLY I'M IN TIME!
HENRY, ON ARRIVING HOME, HAD CALLED IN A DOCTOR, AND...
YOU HAVE BEEN INFECTED WITH A SMALL DOSE, OF A VERY POTENT, ORIENTAL POISON -- YOU ONLY GOT ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU ILL -- BUT A LARGER DOSE WOULD HAVE MEANT INSTANT *DEATH!*
MEANWHILE, MAGU LEADS TORCH AND TORO INTO THE CASTLE -- A PAIR OF BEADY EYES WATCH THEIR EVERY MOVE...
BE VERY QUIET -- WE MUST TAKE HIM BY *SURPRISE!*
YOU BET!
HEH! HEH!
UNSEEN HANDS PULL A LEVER AND...
YOU FALL LIKE STUPID FLIES INTO MY TRAP! HA! HA!
WHAT IN ---
HGGGGNNNN!!
SPLAT!
THEN, A HIGH, RASPING VOICE SEEMS TO COME FROM NOWHERE...
SO MAGU -- YOU THOUGHT YOU'D STOP ME BY BRINGING TORCH AND TORO HERE! WELL, I DO NOT MIND -- MY EXPERIMENTS ARE ALMOST COMPLETE, SO I SHALL USE THEM AS MY *GUINEA PIGS!*
I'LL FLAME UP AND ---
WAIT TORO -- MAYBE MAGU CAN STOP HIM ---
YOU ARE *WRONG* -- BEETLE, NO POISON CAN KILL THESE TWO *FLAME MEN* DO NOT TRY! THEY'LL *KILL US!*
BUT, ONLY A FEW MINUTES BEFORE, TORCH AND TORO HAD ARRIVED AT THE CASTLE...
IT'S GETTING SO DARK -- I'LL STOP HERE AND ASK -- MAYBE SOMEONE SAW TORCH AND TORO!


THE BEETLE HIMSELF ANSWERS JANICE'S KNOCK--
COME IN, MISS, I THINK I CAN HELP YOU-- BUT COME IN!
TORCH BURNS THROUGH TO THE LABORATORY, WHEN THE BEETLE REFUSES TO ANSWER MAGU'S PLEAS...
A GIRL -- IT'S JANICE!
TORCH, SHE'S HANGING OVER THE POISONED BEETLE PIT!
I THINK THIS WILL PERSUADE YOU NOT TO FLAME UNTIL I HAVE COMPLETED MY EXPERIMENT!
HOPING THAT THE HUMAN TORCH CAN BACK HIM UP-- MAGU TAKES A DESPERATE CHANCE...
OKAY, JANICE-- I'LL CATCH YOU!
EEEEK!
I MUST STOP YOU! THE WORLD IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ONE LIFE!
YIPE!
GOSH TORCH-- THAT'S GREAT WORK!
NOW I WILL KILL YOU-SO YOU CAN DO NO MORE HARM!
AHGG!
THEN, MAGU, WITH THE SURGING POWER OF VENGEANCE, SENDS THE JAPANESE BEETLE TO HIS SELF MADE DOOM...
DIE!
AAAAAEEIII!!
OH, TORCH! HOW HORRIBLE!
THE NEXT MORNING...
YES, HE DIED FROM HIS OWN WORK-- HIS PLAN TO INFEST THIS COUNTRY WITH POISONED BEETLES-- A GIGANTIC JAPANESE ARMY OF KILLERS-- BUT NOW THAT CAN NEVER HAPPEN, THANKS TO YOU! GOODBYE!
GOODBYE, MAGU!
SO-LONG!
THE HUMAN TORCH AND TORO WILL BE BACK WITH ANOTHER STEAMING STORY IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED



IT WAS cool in the woods and down in the valley the spire of the little church poked up through the green of shade trees. Mike knew it was a deceptive peacefulness, however, for by now the enemy would certainly have discovered the battered Recon, back in the hills. Patrols would be warned, would be on the look-out for the fliers, who obviously had escaped.

"We're in a tough jam," Mike muttered, turning to sneak back to where Bill lay, his leg and arm bandaged. "How you doing, pal?"

Bill—Lieutenant William Peterson—grinned. "Tips and all . . . good." He hesitated, then added ruefully, "The inner man's kind of impatient. Did old Pierre forget us tonight?"

Mike nodded. "I pulled the bucket across the field. Empty. I've got the cord in my pocket. Saw a couple of soldiers giving the place the eye this afternoon. I wouldn't be surprised if they figured Pierre might know something about us."

Bill Peterson shifted his bandaged arm gingerly. "Worst of it all is, those photos we got are needed at H.Q. We found that fort back in the hills. Snyder has plans, I think, to make a landing here on the coast tonight. If our men walk into this—it'll be bad!"

Mike cursed softly. "Tonight! You didn't tell me." He turned away. "I'm going to be gone a while." He met the Lieutenant's eyes squarely. "I'll do my best. If I don't get back . . . good luck!"

THE little house was dark save for the single light in the back. That, Mike decided, would probably be the kitchen. He snaked his way s the meadow, reached the side of the house ot cautiously to his feet. There seemed to one, and Mike inched his way forward, d around the edge of the window.

Inside he saw Pierre's kid at the table, sitting rigid, stony faced. Beyond was Pierre himself, down on one knee and one hand, while above him stood a Shock Trooper, heavy face cut thinly by a faint, derisive grin. The window was closed and Mike couldn't hear what was said, and probably wouldn't have understood anyhow.

But, just as he figured, the Trooper had stopped in, had probably decided Pierre must know something about the whereabouts of the two fliers. Perhaps the sly disposition of certain foods in the bucket had been noted. This would account for the absence of grub tonight, when Mike had hauled in the bucket.

Mike drew back. Anger burned furiously inside him. Unarmed, he stood little chance against the hulking soldier inside. Pierre was on the floor, his head hanging forward. He'd taken a beating. A severe one, judging by the bloody condition of face and shoulders. Now, peering in again, Mike saw the soldier stride toward the door.

Swiftly Mike slid around the corner of the house, to the back door. He heard the latch click, then saw a panel of yellow light seep out. The Trooper stepped through—

Flinging himself forward, Mike crushed the man to earth. His fingers found a strangle hold, held on. A moment later the soldier lay still.

Pierre's wrinkled face peered out the door, eyes wide with surprise, fear. "Inside!" Mike waved the old guy away. "Close the door!"

The door was shut swiftly. Mike stood up. There was no other sound, save the faint breath of wind around the corner of the cottage, the scraping of a rose bush against the wall.

Swiftly now Mike gathered the inert body into his arms, lugged it to the edge of the woods and stopped. Working fast, he exchanged clothing with the soldier, carefully bound and gagged him. Taking the contents of his own pockets along, Mike moved away. Somehow he had to get inside the fort. Perhaps this uniform would make that possible.

THE fort looked out into the darkness, built solidly of stone and cement, carefully hidden from all sides as well as from above. There were probably many more of them, scattered along the entire length of the coast, but this one in particular stood out as a definite menace to Snyder's raid tonight.

It was ticklish getting through the gate, past the sentry. Mike didn't stop to think about it, but pushed doggedly ahead. He never remembered what he said. It must have been all right, as had been his use of German. They'd been carefully trained in this ever since they'd come across.

As he walked on through the dark of the narrow lane winding before him, he expected at any instant to hear a shouted command, feel the smash of a bullet in his back.

Nothing happened. The fort was a veritable death-trap for Snyder's invaders. Searchlights were mounted at strategic spots. The walls were too thick to be pierced by anything but heavy naval rifles. The ammunition dumps were many, the anti-aircraft defenses on the alert. There was little light, but Mike managed to make it all out, felt the skin along his arms come up in goose pimples.

No doubt he could blow up the place. He had two grenades, part of the equipment he'd taken from the Trooper. But it would mean blowing himself into the middle of next week at the same time!

OUT of the darkness came a sudden, warning whistle. For a second Mike paused, then the dark was full of flying forms, soldiers racing to their posts. A moment later the dark was lit up by the glare of huge searchlights, peering off into the dark, down toward the cove.

Somewhere a big rifle went off with a rending roar that left Mike's ears singing. He whirled. Snyder and his crew must be landing. They were coming ashore. They'd been spotted. . . .

Swiftly Mike raced forward. No one would notice him in the confusion. He turned a corner of the alley and before him stood a mounded ammunition dump. No guard was near. Mike slid swiftly ahead.

Again a rifle went off with a vibrating smash that made the ground tremble. Again it blasted.

With steady fingers Mike ripped out the grenades. He moved forward. Perhaps there was a way. These grenades, a length of cord in his pocket . . . he must work fast. . . .

The smell of damp earth came to him. He knelt in the darkness, feeling before him. His hand encountered rows of heavy-calibre cartridges, ammunition for the coastal defense guns, the ones smashing away outside now, shaking the floor with their angry roar.

In the dark, Mike worked the grenades under the edge of the first row. He tied the cord about the pins, leaped up, hurried back through the dark. If he could get far enough away before the cord ran out, he'd have a chance.

Outside it was half lit by a reflected glow of the searchlight batteries. Swifty Mike ran along the lane, heading as straight as possible for the side entrance, unraveling the cord as he went. It was long. It had reached clear across the meadow, to Pierre's, but when these tons of explosives let go, it would be good to be far, far away.

Mike reached the gate. It was closed and he fought to get the heavy latch open, swing the heavy barriers back. All about him now the air was alive with the burst of shells. The din of big rifles was monotonous, steady, deafening. The ground winced to the concussion of heavy explosives.

The gates swung open and Mike leaped out. The cord came to an end. He took in the slack till it was taut. He gave it a final jerk—

THE earth heaved in a mighty cough, flinging flame and smoke high into the air. The crushing explosion hurled him from his feet, sent him flying through the air. He struck the ground, rolled over and slowly groped to his feet.

Another crushing explosion shattered the night, sending orange flames high into the sky. A third followed almost simultaneously.

Now Mike was running. He stumbled and fell. Rocks and debris thudded down about him. Dazed, bruised, Mike stumbled down the slope. He turned at the edge of the woods to stare back. Flames were licking up high into the air above what remained of the fortress. It was in ruins now. Snyder and his landing party would be safe, would accomplish their mission.

Mike headed down to the little clearing where he'd left Bill Peterson. As he reached Bill, Mike chattered, "It—it'll be all over now. All but the mopping up." Mike reached down. "Come on, Butch. We've got to get down to the cove. We'll thumb a ride back. With Snyder and his crew!"

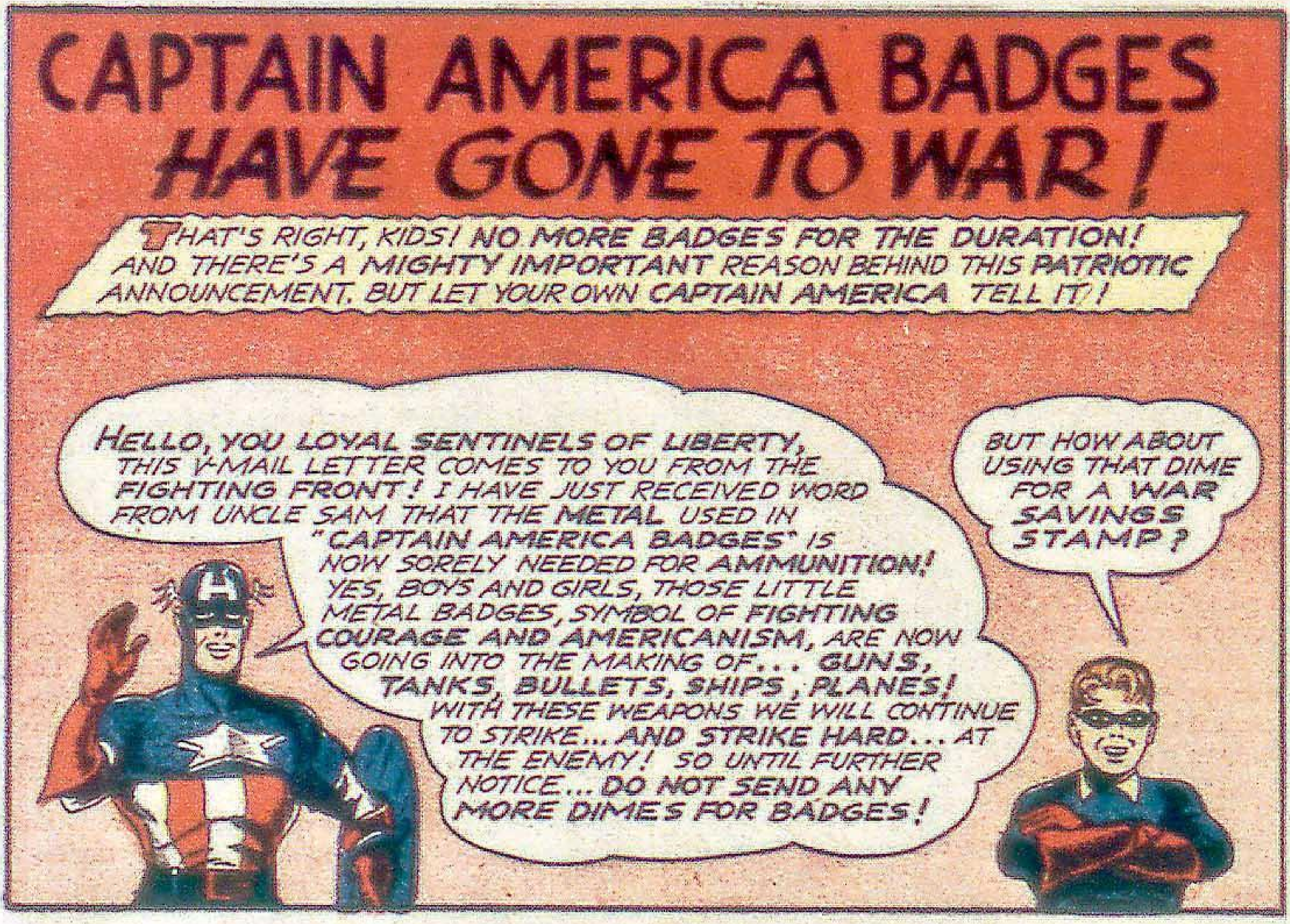
He got the Lieutenant onto his one good foot, then across his shoulders. Mike said softly, "I crashed the snotzies' party. Snyder and his gang were coming in. Had to do something."

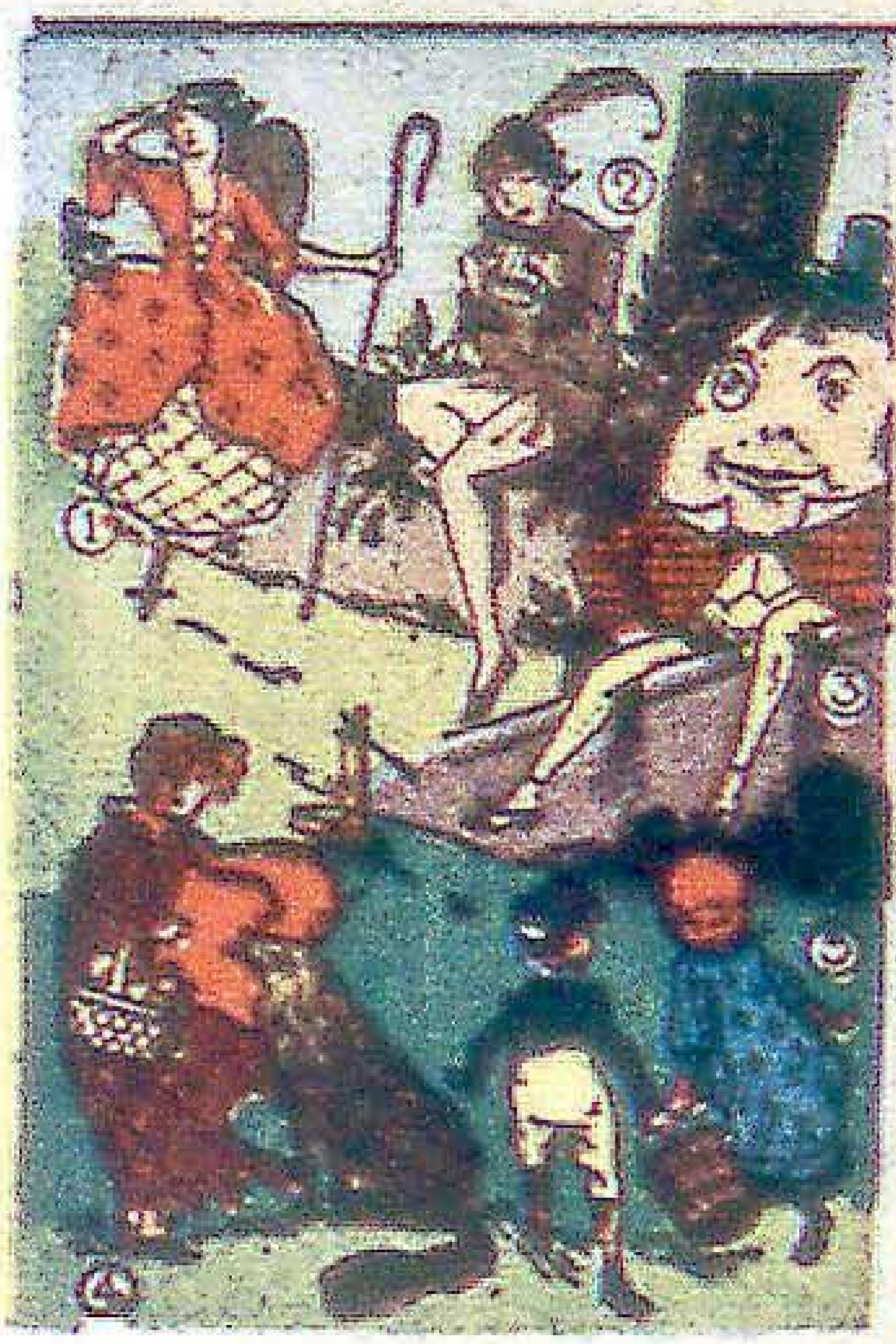
"You did it all right," Peterson gritted. "And I wasn't in on the fun!"

"Get a hold and dry up," Mike ordered. "You're getting a piggy-back - I'm no army mule, y'know."

Bill chuckled. "You'd make a good one, bud. Ask them back there at the fort. I'll bet they'd say you've got a kick like one. Okay. Sorry I haven't my spurs. Giddap!"

THE END


CAPTAIN AMERICA BADGES HAVE GONE TO WAR!
THAT'S RIGHT, KIDS! NO MORE BADGES FOR THE DURATION! AND THERE'S A MIGHTY IMPORTANT REASON BEHIND THIS PATRIOTIC ANNOUNCEMENT. BUT LET YOUR OWN CAPTAIN AMERICA TELL IT!
HELLO, YOU LOYAL SENTINELS OF LIBERTY, THIS V-MAIL LETTER COMES TO YOU FROM THE FIGHTING FRONT! I HAVE JUST RECEIVED WORD FROM UNCLE SAM THAT THE METAL USED IN "CAPTAIN AMERICA BADGES" IS NOW SORELY NEEDED FOR AMMUNITION! YES, BOYS AND GIRLS, THOSE LITTLE METAL BADGES, SYMBOL OF FIGHTING COURAGE AND AMERICANISM, ARE NOW GOING INTO THE MAKING OF... GUNS, TANKS, BULLETS, SHIPS, PLANES! WITH THESE WEAPONS WE WILL CONTINUE TO STRIKE... AND STRIKE HARD... AT THE ENEMY! SO UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE... DO NOT SEND ANY MORE DIMES FOR BADGES!
BUT HOW ABOUT USING THAT DIME FOR A WAR SAVINGS STAMP?



Boys-Girls! Solve This Puzzle

It's Fun--Try It!

In this picture are several fairyland characters. Can you name them? It's easy! Untangle the letters below and put them in order so that each word is the name of one of the storybook folks. For example, the letters, "RPTEE APN," No. 2, when placed in the right order, spell "PETER PAN." You will find him in the picture with his pipes, playing a jolly tune.

Every Junior Salesman Gets a Candy Bank

Send me the name of each character in this happy fairyland family and become a member of the Junior Sales Club. I will tell you how to get this Candy Bank FREE.

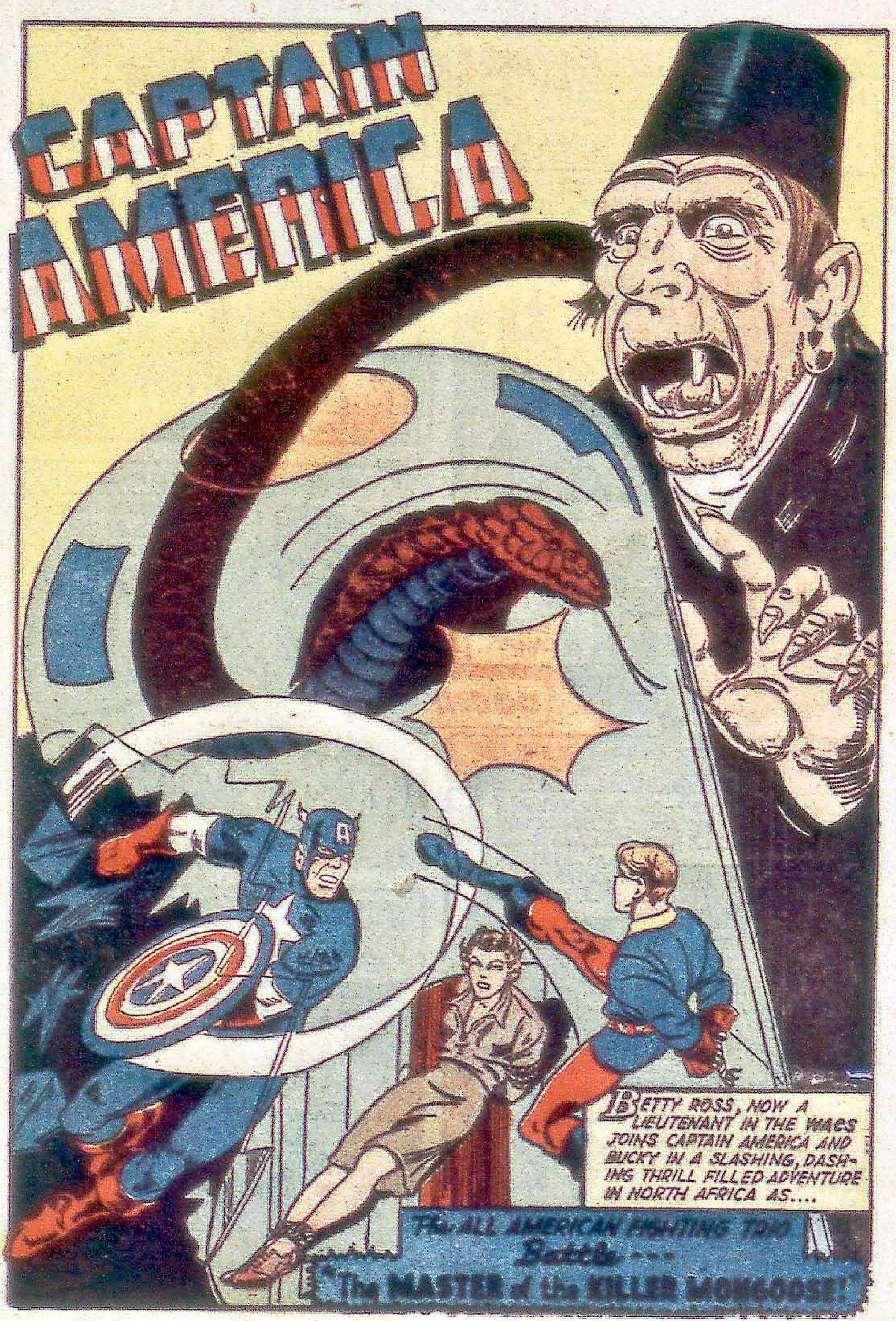
This bank contains tasty chocolate bars. When you drop a penny in the bank, you can pull open the drawer and there will be a delicious chocolate bar wrapped in tinfoil waiting for you.

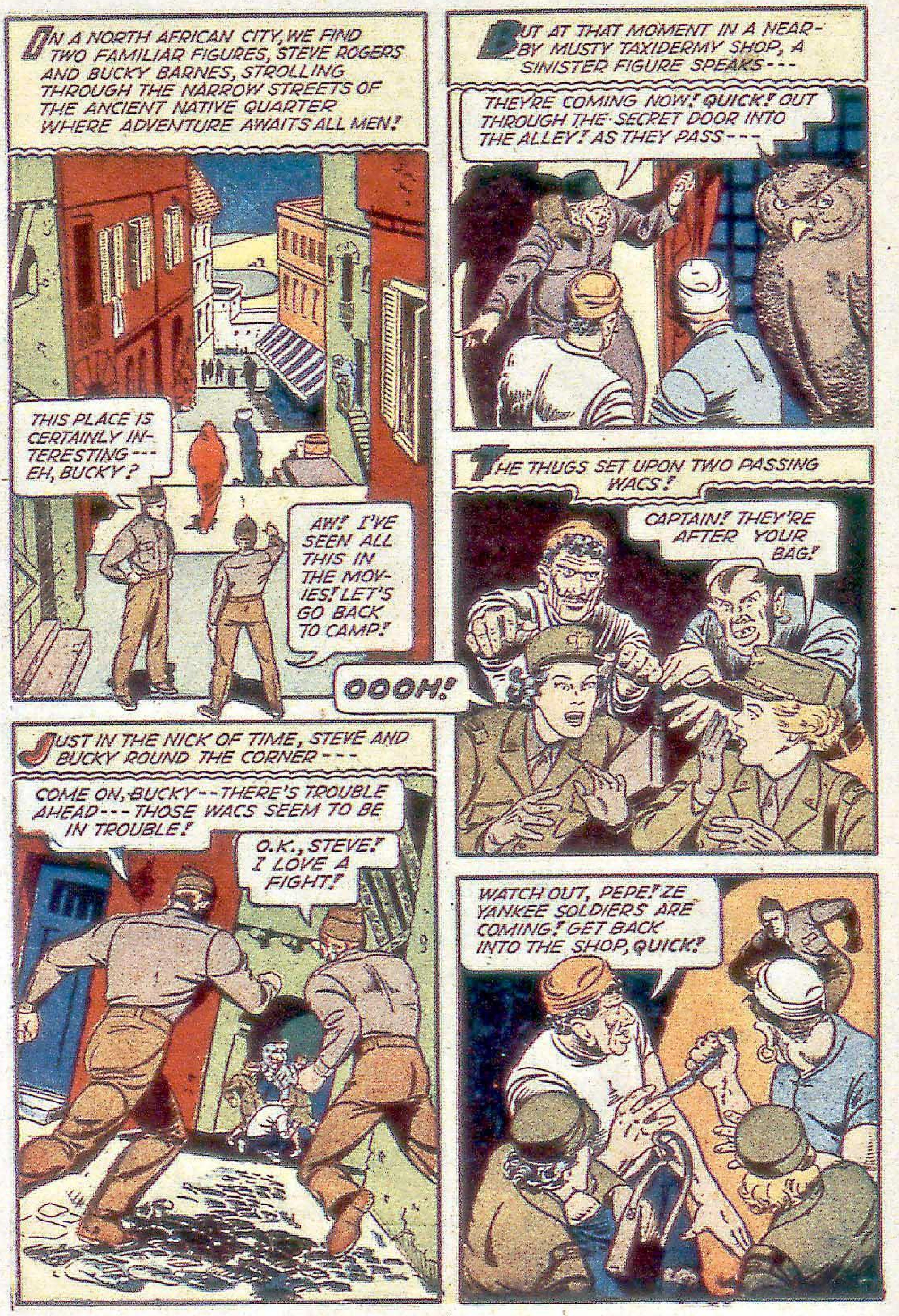
1. TELTIL OB-EPEP
2. RPTEE APN
3. YHTUPM YDTUMP
4. EDR GNIIDR OOHD
5. CAKJ NAD JLLI

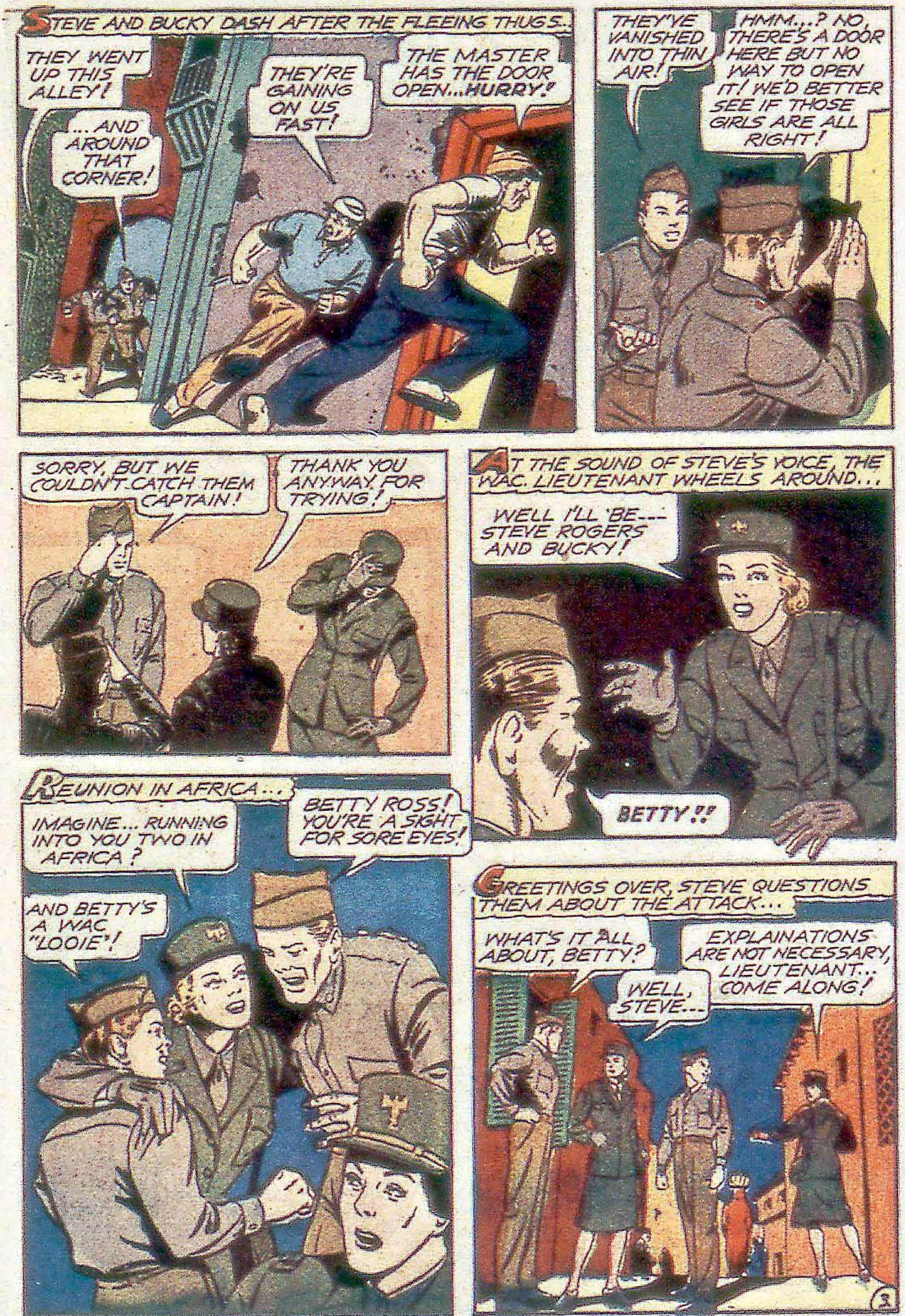
When You Solve Puzzle

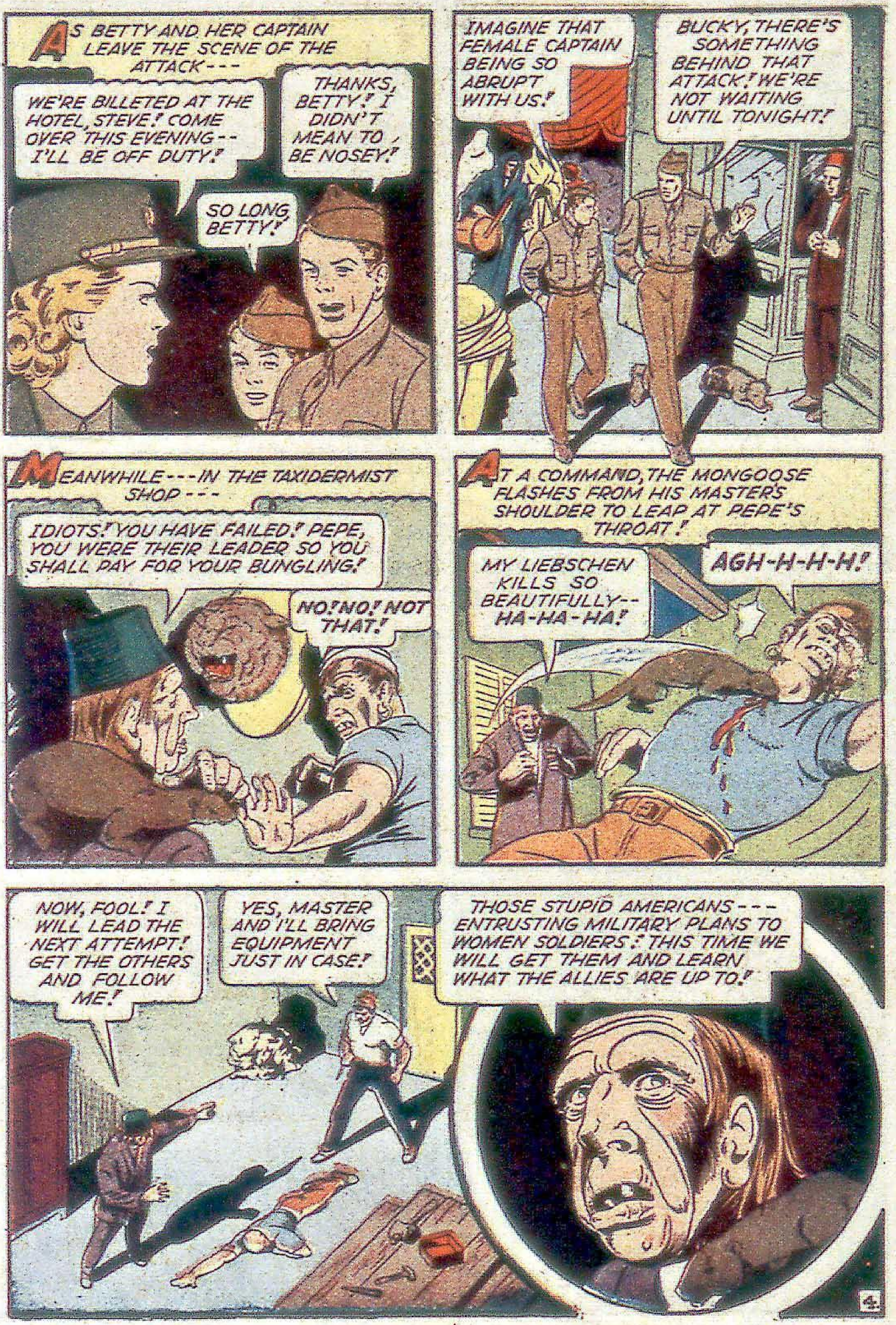
Write the names of the fairyland folks on a penny postcard or a sheet of paper, then sign your name and address and give your age. Every boy and girl who sends in the names of these characters and joins my Junior Sales Club, will have an opportunity to get this bank FREE. Send your answer to

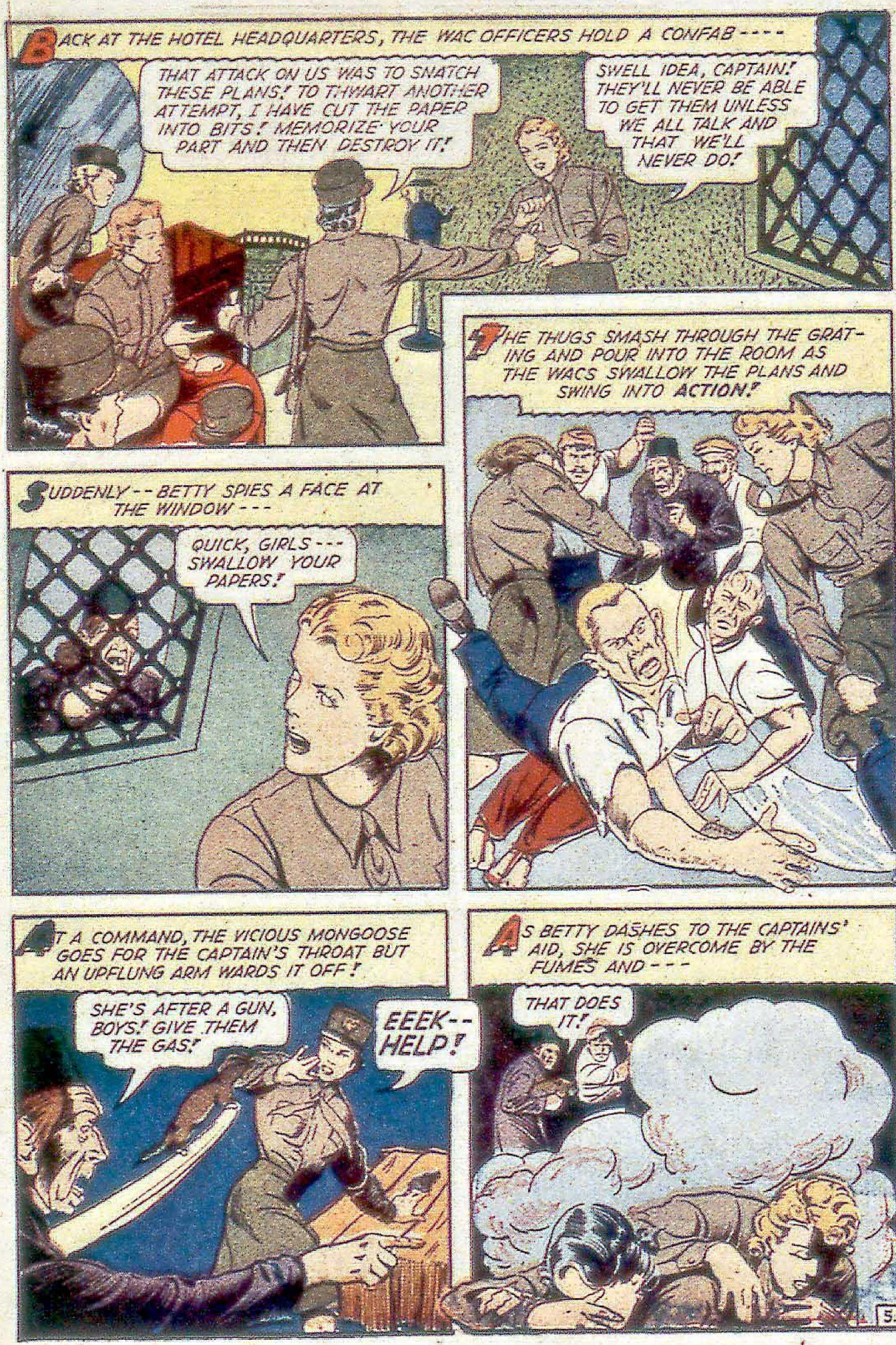
Billy Wade, Junior Sales Club 208 Topeka, Kan.

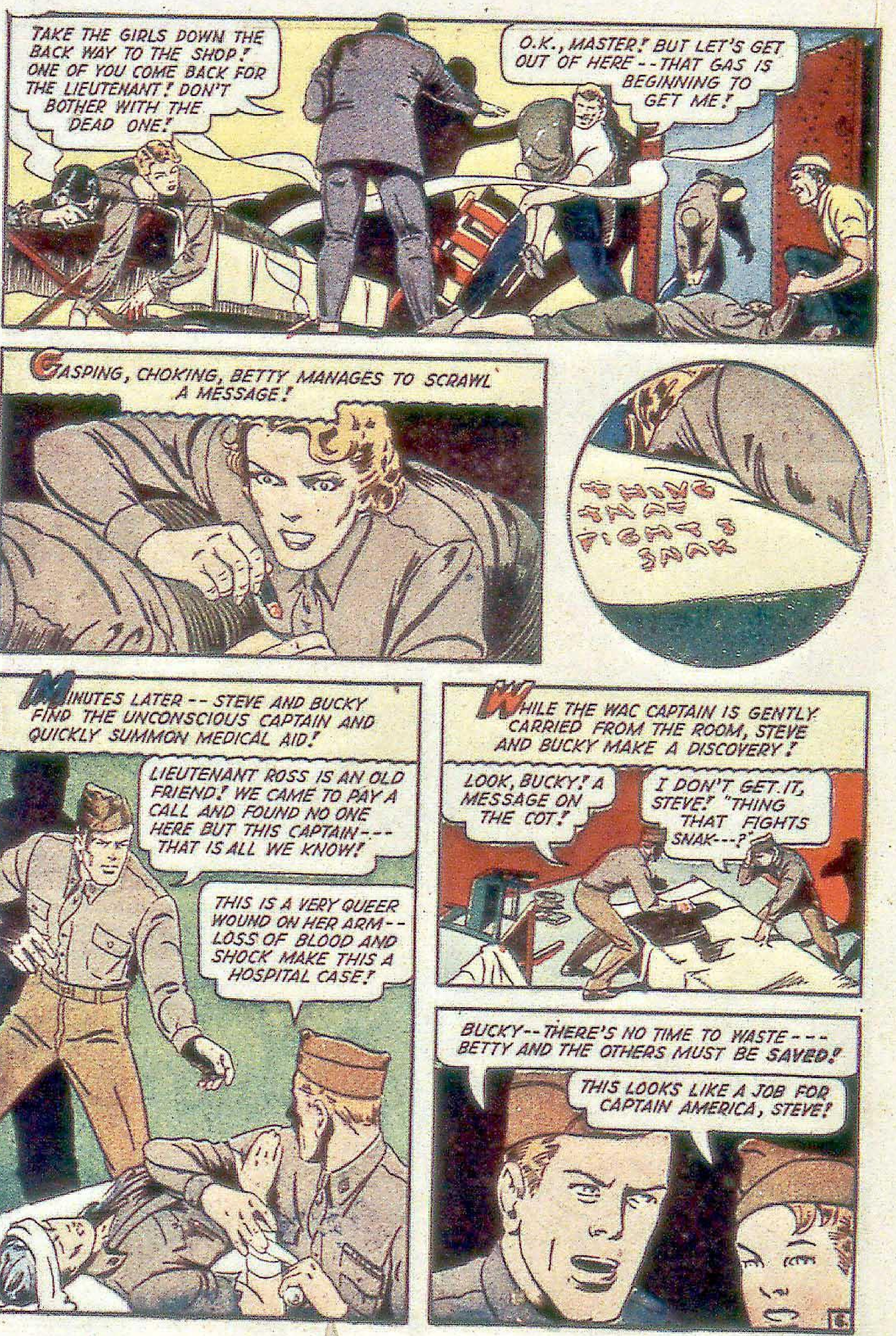

CAPTAIN AMERICA
BETTY ROSS, NOW A LIEUTENANT IN THE WACS JOINS CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY IN A SLASHING, DASHING THRILL FILLED ADVENTURE IN NORTH AFRICA AS....
The ALL AMERICAN FIGHTING TRIO
Battle ---
"The MASTER of the KILLER MONGOOSE!"

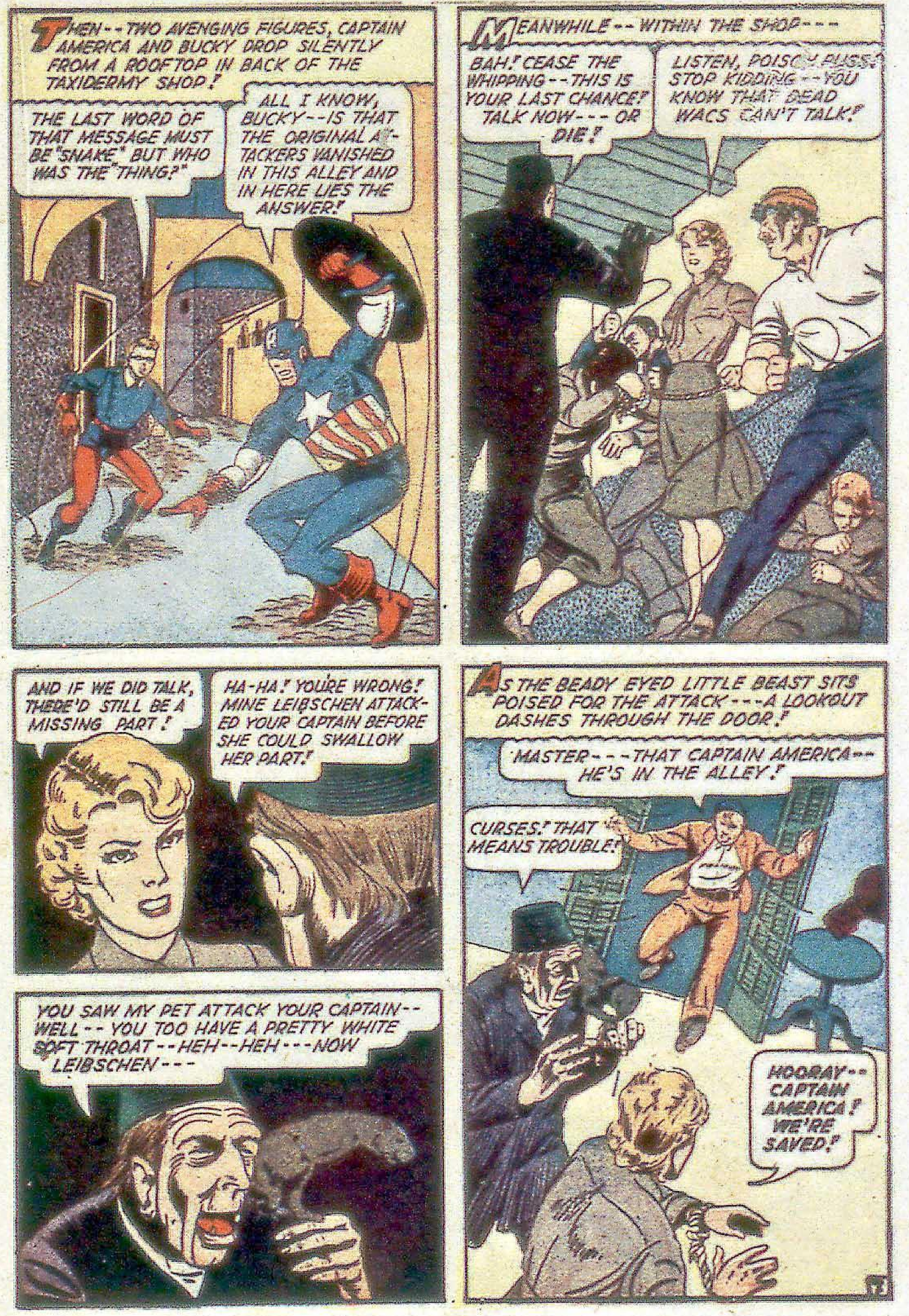

IN A NORTH AFRICAN CITY, WE FIND TWO FAMILIAR FIGURES, STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY BARNES, STROLLING THROUGH THE NARROW STREETS OF THE ANCIENT NATIVE QUARTER WHERE ADVENTURE AWAITS ALL MEN!
THIS PLACE IS CERTAINLY INTERESTING--- EH, BUCKY?
AW! I'VE SEEN ALL THIS IN THE MOVIES! LET'S GO BACK TO CAMP!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT IN A NEARBY MUSTY TAXIDERMY SHOP, A SINISTER FIGURE SPEAKS---
THEY'RE COMING NOW! QUICK! OUT THROUGH THE SECRET DOOR INTO THE ALLEY! AS THEY PASS---
THE THUGS SET UPON TWO PASSING WACS!
CAPTAIN! THEY'RE AFTER YOUR BAG!
OOOH!
JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME, STEVE AND BUCKY ROUND THE CORNER---
COME ON, BUCKY--THERE'S TROUBLE AHEAD---THOSE WACS SEEM TO BE IN TROUBLE!
O.K., STEVE! I LOVE A FIGHT!
WATCH OUT, PEPE! ZE YANKEE SOLDIERS ARE COMING! GET BACK INTO THE SHOP, QUICK!

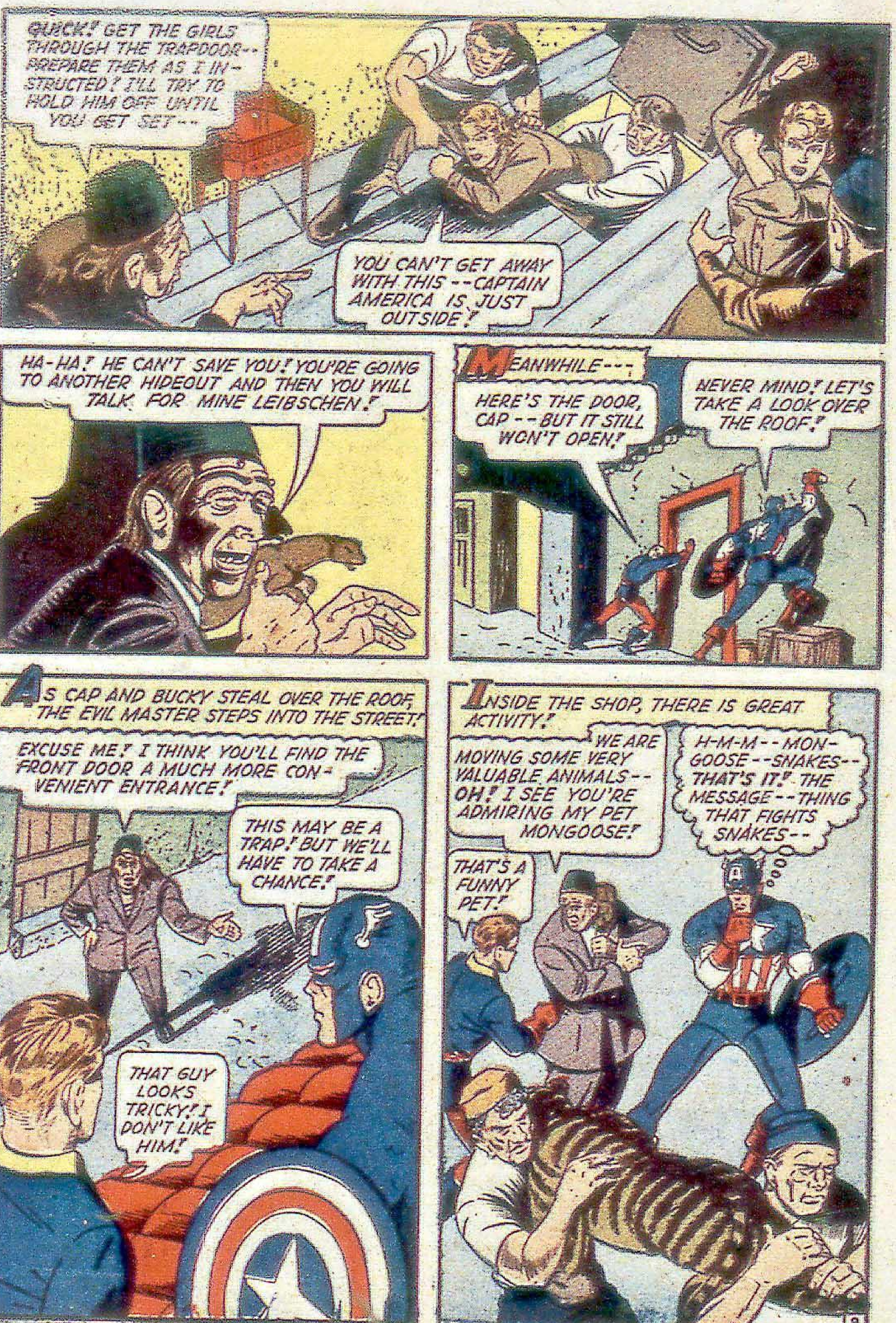

STEVE AND BUCKY DASH AFTER THE FLEEING THUGS...
THEY WENT UP THIS ALLEY!
...AND AROUND THAT CORNER!
THEY'RE GAINING ON US FAST!
THE MASTER HAS THE DOOR OPEN...HURRY!
THEY'VE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!
HMM...? NO, THERE'S A DOOR HERE BUT NO WAY TO OPEN IT! WE'D BETTER SEE IF THOSE GIRLS ARE ALL RIGHT!
SORRY, BUT WE COULDN'T CATCH THEM CAPTAIN!
THANK YOU ANYWAY FOR TRYING!
AT THE SOUND OF STEVE'S VOICE, THE WAC. LIEUTENANT WHEELS AROUND...
WELL I'LL BE--- STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY!
BETTY?!
REUNION IN AFRICA...
IMAGINE... RUNNING INTO YOU TWO IN AFRICA?
BETTY ROSS! YOU'RE A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!
AND BETTY'S A WAC "LOOIE"!
GREETINGS OVER, STEVE QUESTIONS THEM ABOUT THE ATTACK...
WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT, BETTY?
WELL, STEVE...
EXPLAINATIONS ARE NOT NECESSARY, LIEUTENANT... COME ALONG!
3

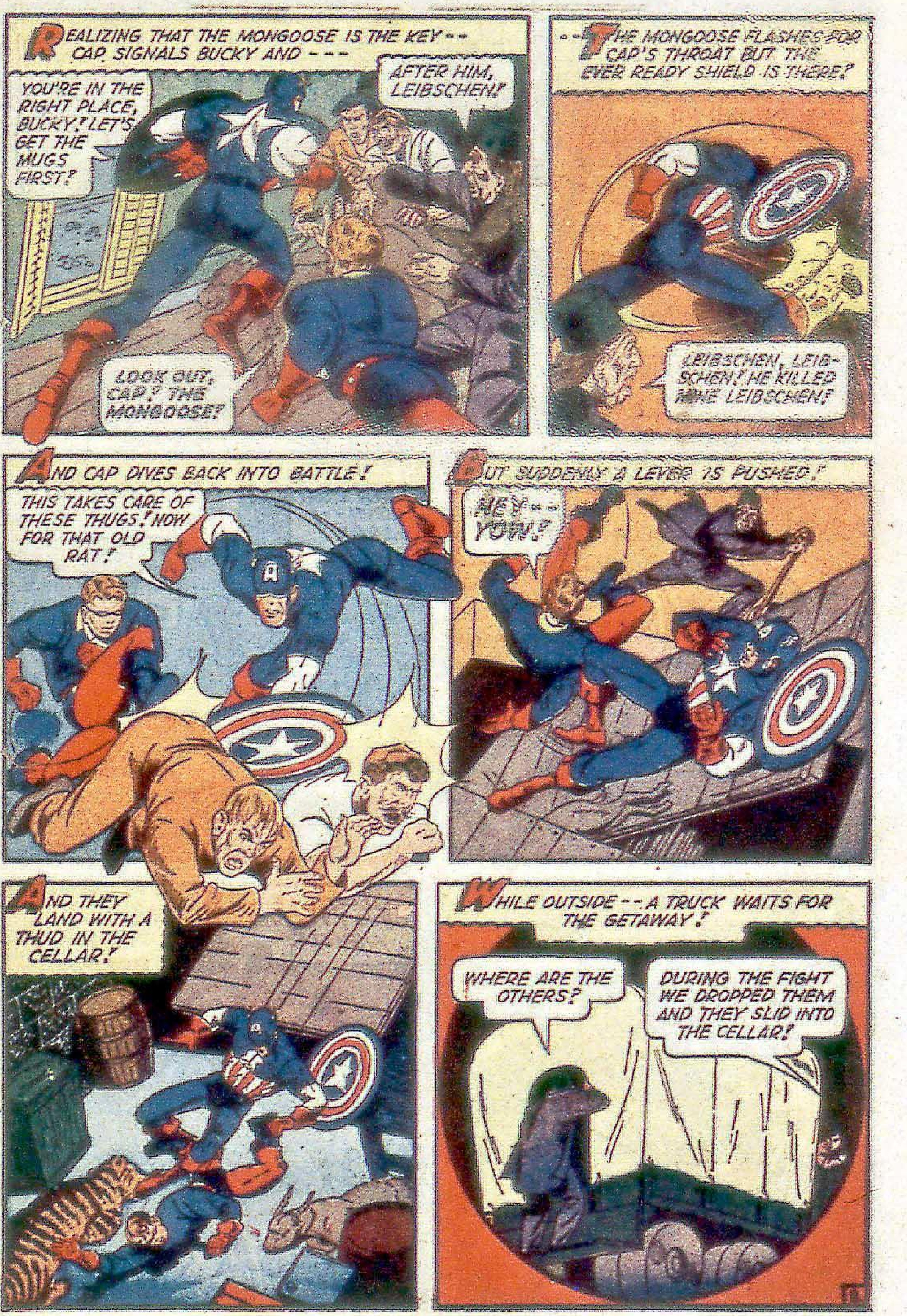

AS BETTY AND HER CAPTAIN LEAVE THE SCENE OF THE ATTACK---
WE'RE BILLETED AT THE HOTEL, STEVE! COME OVER THIS EVENING-- I'LL BE OFF DUTY!
THANKS, BETTY! I DIDN'T MEAN TO BE NOSEY!
SO LONG, BETTY!
IMAGINE THAT FEMALE CAPTAIN BEING SO ABRUPT WITH US!
BUCKY, THERE'S SOMETHING BEHIND THAT ATTACK! WE'RE NOT WAITING UNTIL TONIGHT!
MEANWHILE---IN THE TAXIDERMIST SHOP---
IDIOTS! YOU HAVE FAILED! PEPE, YOU WERE THEIR LEADER SO YOU SHALL PAY FOR YOUR BUNGLING!
NO! NO! NOT THAT!
AT A COMMAND, THE MONGOOSE FLASHES FROM HIS MASTER'S SHOULDER TO LEAP AT PEPE'S THROAT!
MY LIEBSCHEN KILLS SO BEAUTIFULLY-- HA-HA-HA!
AGH-H-H-H!
NOW, FOOL! I WILL LEAD THE NEXT ATTEMPT! GET THE OTHERS AND FOLLOW ME!
YES, MASTER AND I'LL BRING EQUIPMENT JUST IN CASE!
THOSE STUPID AMERICANS--- ENTRUSTING MILITARY PLANS TO WOMEN SOLDIERS! THIS TIME WE WILL GET THEM AND LEARN WHAT THE ALLIES ARE UP TO!

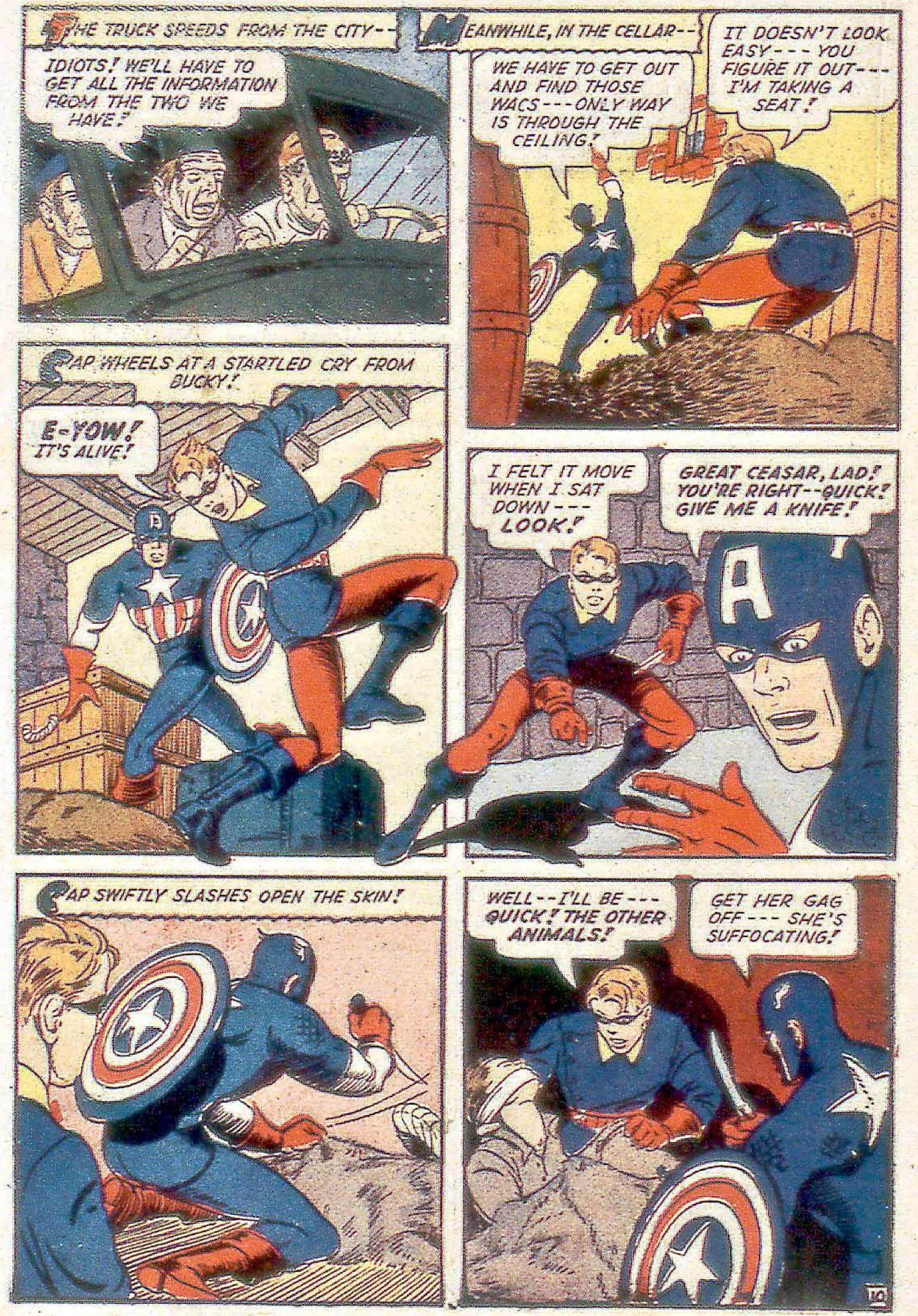

BACK AT THE HOTEL HEADQUARTERS, THE WAC OFFICERS HOLD A CONFAB ----
THAT ATTACK ON US WAS TO SNATCH THESE PLANS! TO THWART ANOTHER ATTEMPT, I HAVE CUT THE PAPER INTO BITS! MEMORIZE YOUR PART AND THEN DESTROY IT!
SWELL IDEA, CAPTAIN! THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO GET THEM UNLESS WE ALL TALK AND THAT WE'LL NEVER DO!
SUDDENLY -- BETTY SPIES A FACE AT THE WINDOW ---
QUICK, GIRLS --- SWALLOW YOUR PAPERS!
THE THUGS SMASH THROUGH THE GRATING AND POUR INTO THE ROOM AS THE WACS SWALLOW THE PLANS AND SWING INTO ACTION!
AT A COMMAND, THE VICIOUS MONGOOSE GOES FOR THE CAPTAIN'S THROAT BUT AN UPFLUNG ARM WARDS IT OFF!
SHE'S AFTER A GUN, BOYS! GIVE THEM THE GAS!
EEEK-- HELP!
AS BETTY DASHES TO THE CAPTAINS' AID, SHE IS OVERCOME BY THE FUMES AND ---
THAT DOES IT!
5.

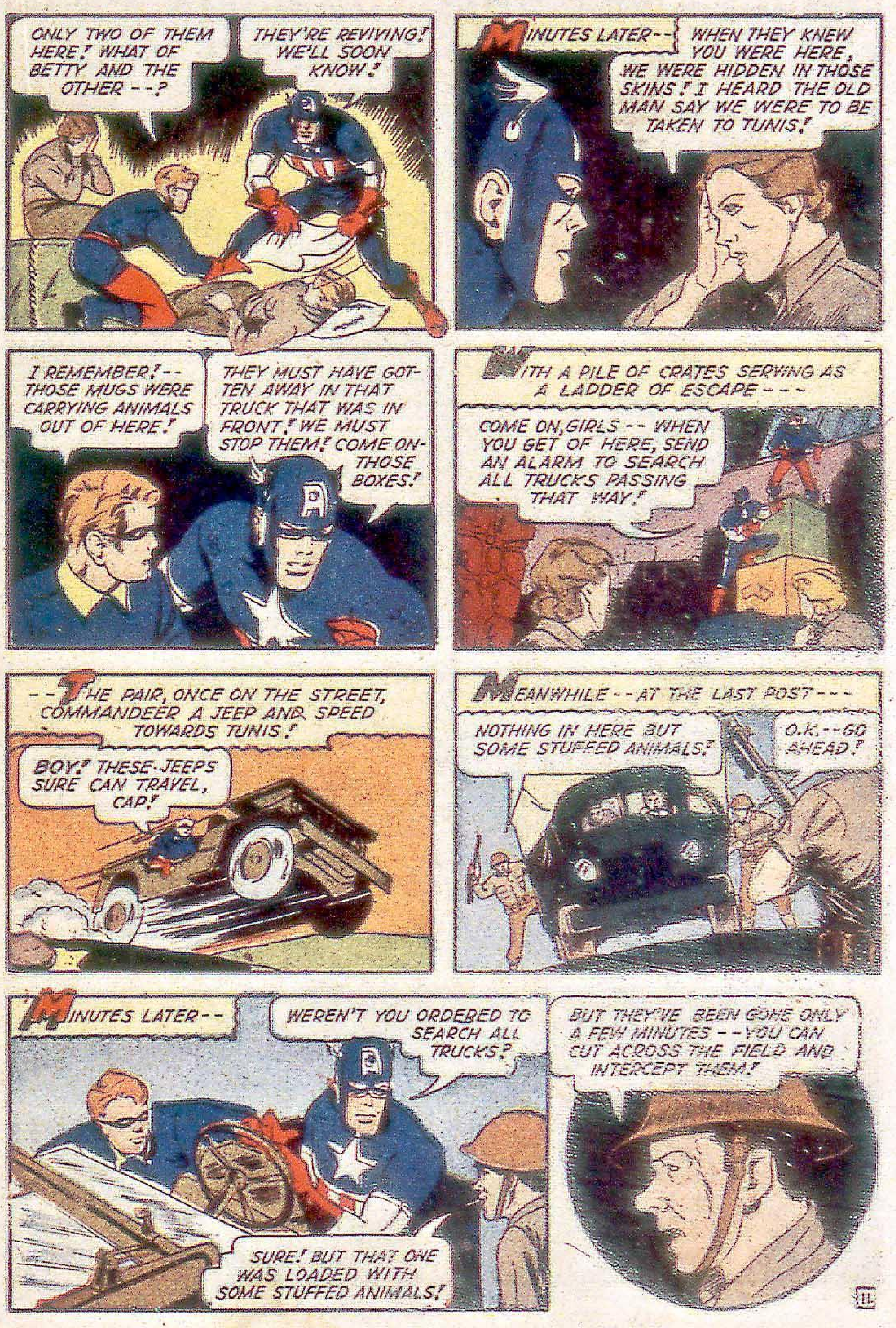

TAKE THE GIRLS DOWN THE BACK WAY TO THE SHOP! ONE OF YOU COME BACK FOR THE LIEUTENANT! DON'T BOTHER WITH THE DEAD ONE!
O.K., MASTER! BUT LET'S GET OUT OF HERE--THAT GAS IS BEGINNING TO GET ME!
GASPING, CHOKING, BETTY MANAGES TO SCRAWL A MESSAGE!
THING THAT FIGHTS SNAK
MINUTES LATER -- STEVE AND BUCKY FIND THE UNCONSCIOUS CAPTAIN AND QUICKLY SUMMON MEDICAL AID!
LIEUTENANT ROSS IS AN OLD FRIEND! WE CAME TO PAY A CALL AND FOUND NO ONE HERE BUT THIS CAPTAIN--- THAT IS ALL WE KNOW!
THIS IS A VERY QUEER WOUND ON HER ARM-- LOSS OF BLOOD AND SHOCK MAKE THIS A HOSPITAL CASE!
WHILE THE WAC CAPTAIN IS GENTLY CARRIED FROM THE ROOM, STEVE AND BUCKY MAKE A DISCOVERY!
LOOK, BUCKY! A MESSAGE ON THE COT!
I DON'T GET IT, STEVE! "THING THAT FIGHTS SNAK---?"
BUCKY--THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE--- BETTY AND THE OTHERS MUST BE SAVED!
THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA, STEVE!

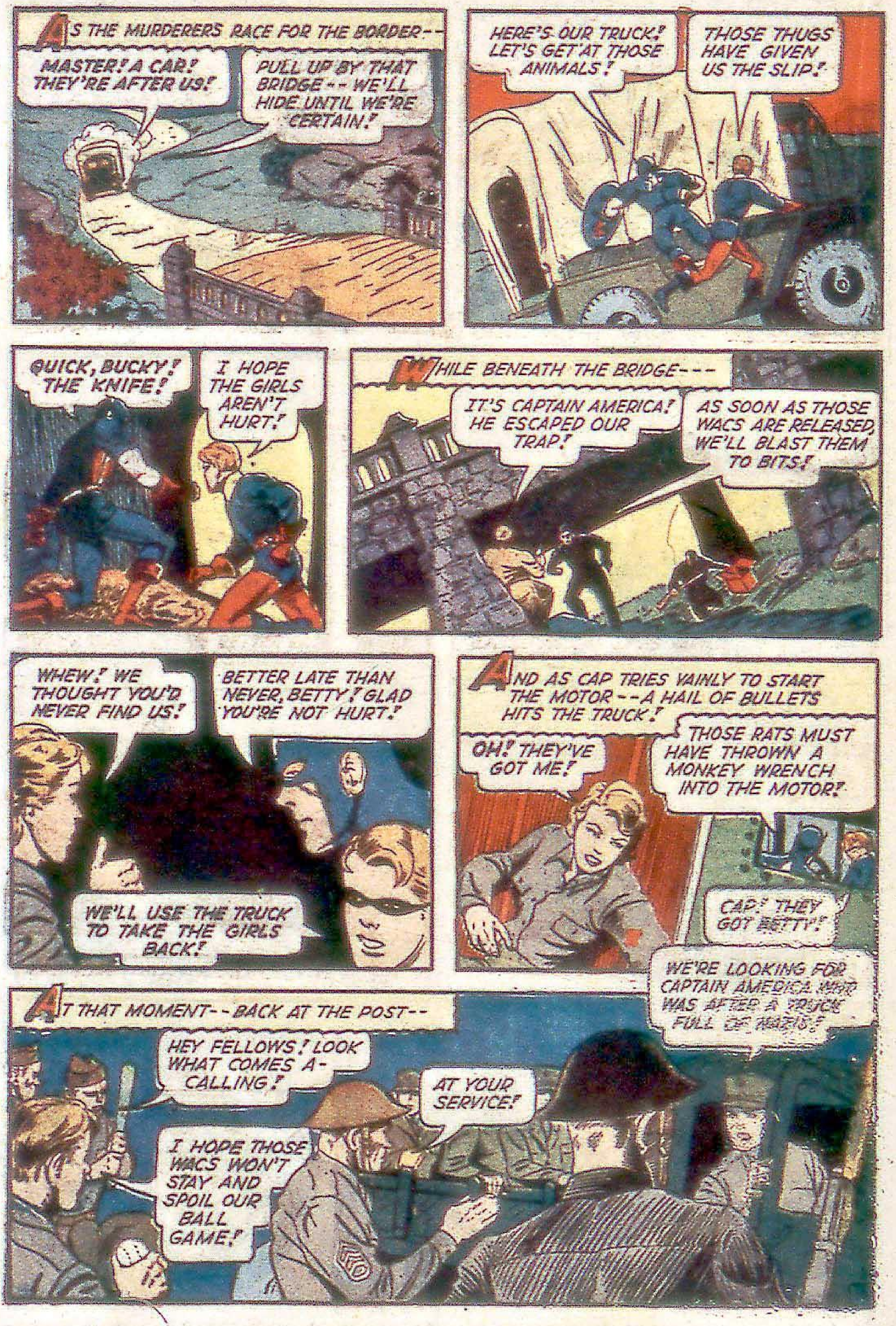

THEN--TWO AVENGING FIGURES, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY DROP SILENTLY FROM A ROOFTOP IN BACK OF THE TAXIDERMY SHOP!
THE LAST WORD OF THAT MESSAGE MUST BE "SNAKE" BUT WHO WAS THE "THING?"
ALL I KNOW, BUCKY--IS THAT THE ORIGINAL ATTACKERS VANISHED IN THIS ALLEY AND IN HERE LIES THE ANSWER!
MEANWHILE--WITHIN THE SHOP---
BAH! CEASE THE WHIPPING--THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE! TALK NOW---OR DIE!
LISTEN, POISON PUSS! STOP KIDDING--YOU KNOW THAT DEAD WACS CAN'T TALK!
AND IF WE DID TALK, THERE'D STILL BE A MISSING PART!
HA-HA! YOU'RE WRONG! MINE LEIBSCHEN ATTACKED YOUR CAPTAIN BEFORE SHE COULD SWALLOW HER PART!
YOU SAW MY PET ATTACK YOUR CAPTAIN--WELL--YOU TOO HAVE A PRETTY WHITE SOFT THROAT--HEH--HEH---NOW LEIBSCHEN---
AS THE BEADY EYED LITTLE BEAST SITS POISED FOR THE ATTACK---A LOOKOUT DASHES THROUGH THE DOOR!
MASTER---THAT CAPTAIN AMERICA--HE'S IN THE ALLEY!
CURSES! THAT MEANS TROUBLE!
HOORAY--CAPTAIN AMERICA! WE'RE SAVED!

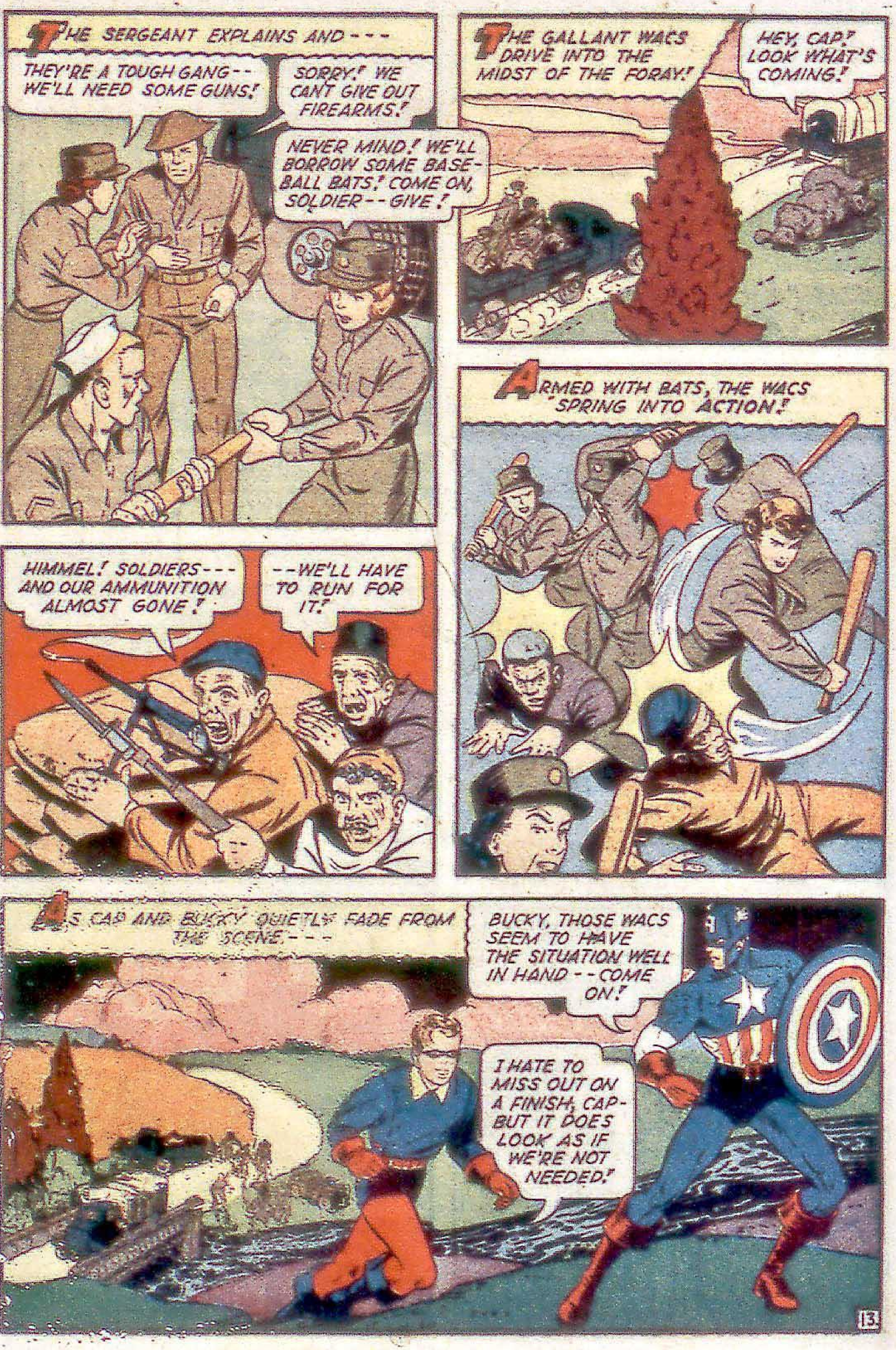

QUICK! GET THE GIRLS THROUGH THE TRAPDOOR--PREPARE THEM AS I INSTRUCTED! I'LL TRY TO HOLD HIM OFF UNTIL YOU GET SET--
YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS--CAPTAIN AMERICA IS JUST OUTSIDE!
HA-HA! HE CAN'T SAVE YOU! YOU'RE GOING TO ANOTHER HIDEOUT AND THEN YOU WILL TALK FOR MINE LEIBSCHEN!
MEANWHILE---
HERE'S THE DOOR, CAP--BUT IT STILL WON'T OPEN!
NEVER MIND! LET'S TAKE A LOOK OVER THE ROOF!
AS CAP AND BUCKY STEAL OVER THE ROOF, THE EVIL MASTER STEPS INTO THE STREET!
EXCUSE ME! I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE FRONT DOOR A MUCH MORE CONVENIENT ENTRANCE!
THIS MAY BE A TRAP! BUT WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE A CHANCE!
THAT GUY LOOKS TRICKY! I DON'T LIKE HIM!
INSIDE THE SHOP, THERE IS GREAT ACTIVITY!
WE ARE MOVING SOME VERY VALUABLE ANIMALS--OH! I SEE YOU'RE ADMIRING MY PET MONGOOSE!
H-M-M--MONGOOSE--SNAKES--THAT'S IT! THE MESSAGE--THING THAT FIGHTS SNAKES--
THAT'S A FUNNY PET!

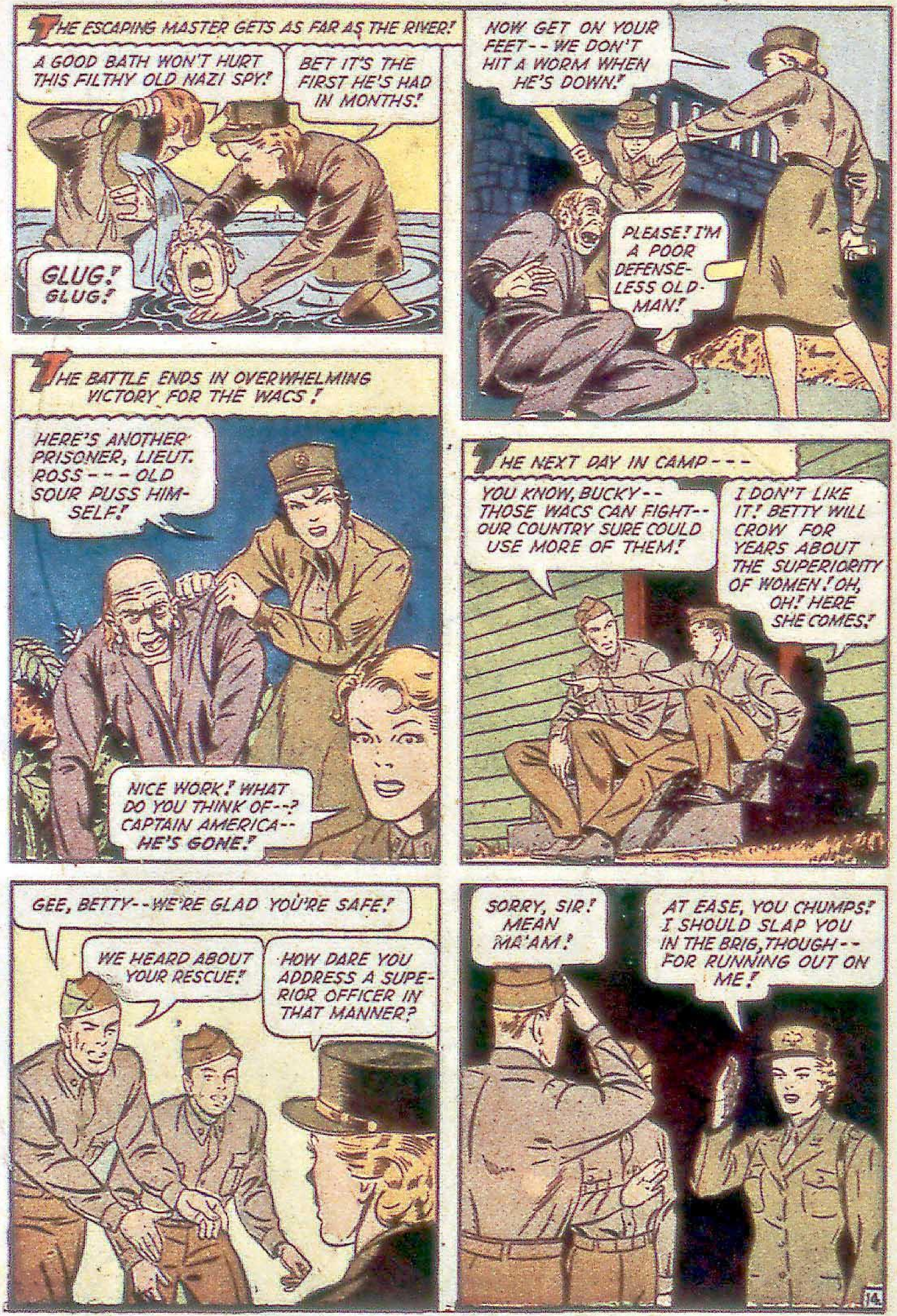

REALIZING THAT THE MONGOOSE IS THE KEY --- CAP SIGNALS BUCKY AND ---
YOU'RE IN THE RIGHT PLACE, BUCKY! LET'S GET THE MUGS FIRST!
AFTER HIM, LEIBSCHEN!
LOOK OUT, CAP! THE MONGOOSE!
--THE MONGOOSE FLASHES FOR CAP'S THROAT BUT THE EVER READY SHIELD IS THERE!
LEIBSCHEN, LEIBSCHEN! HE KILLED MINE LEIBSCHEN!
AND CAP DIVES BACK INTO BATTLE!
THIS TAKES CARE OF THESE THUGS! NOW FOR THAT OLD RAT!
BUT SUDDENLY A LEVER IS PUSHED!
HEY--- YOW!
AND THEY LAND WITH A THUD IN THE CELLAR!
WHILE OUTSIDE--A TRUCK WAITS FOR THE GETAWAY!
WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
DURING THE FIGHT WE DROPPED THEM AND THEY SLID INTO THE CELLAR!

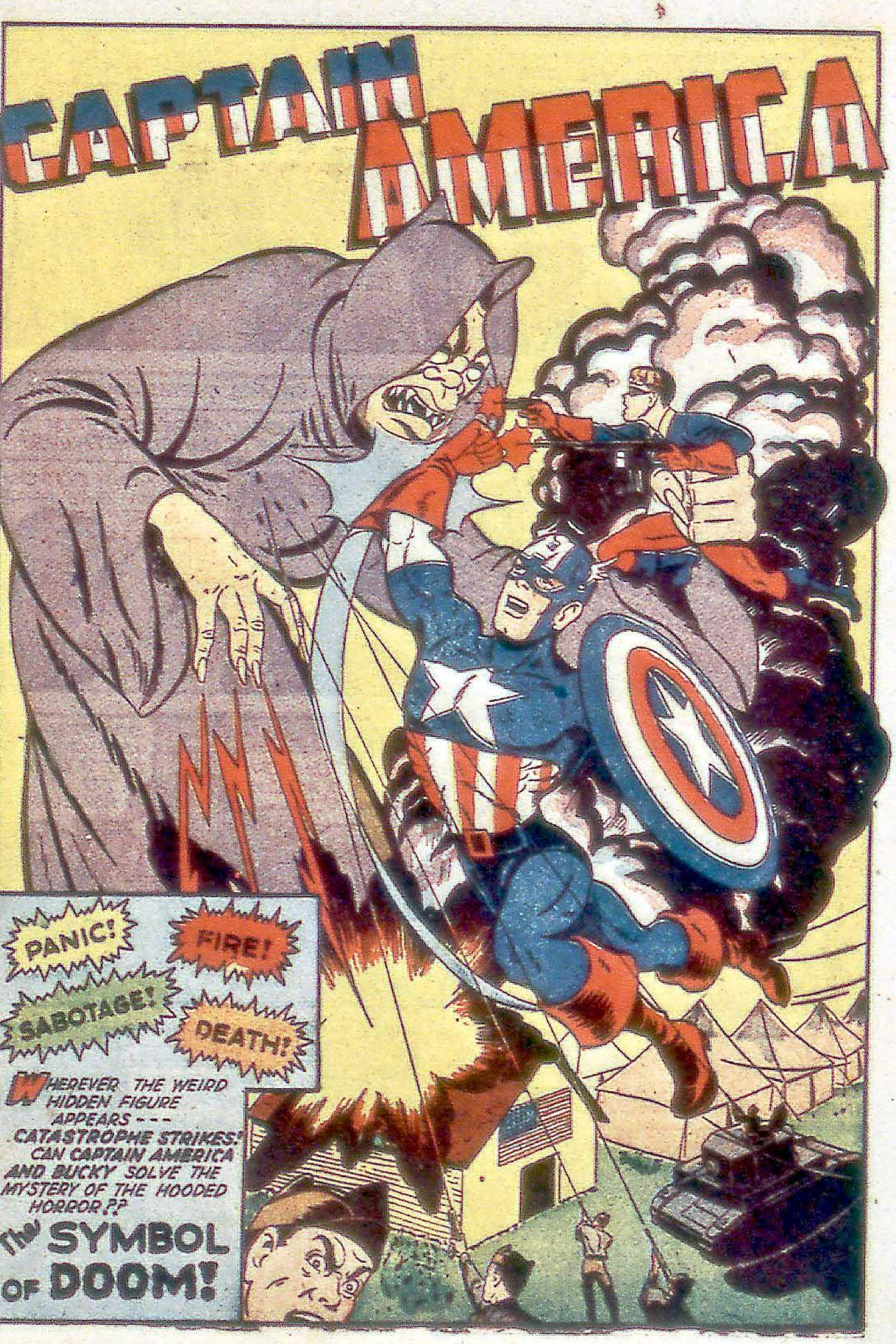

THE TRUCK SPEEDS FROM THE CITY--
IDIOTS! WE'LL HAVE TO GET ALL THE INFORMATION FROM THE TWO WE HAVE!
MEANWHILE, IN THE CELLAR--
WE HAVE TO GET OUT AND FIND THOSE WACS---ONLY WAY IS THROUGH THE CEILING!
IT DOESN'T LOOK EASY---YOU FIGURE IT OUT---I'M TAKING A SEAT!
CAP WHEELS AT A STARTLED CRY FROM BUCKY!
E-YOW! IT'S ALIVE!
I FELT IT MOVE WHEN I SAT DOWN---LOOK!
GREAT CEASAR, LAD! YOU'RE RIGHT--QUICK! GIVE ME A KNIFE!
CAP SWIFTLY SLASHES OPEN THE SKIN!
WELL--I'LL BE---QUICK! THE OTHER ANIMALS!
GET HER GAG OFF---SHE'S SUFFOCATING!

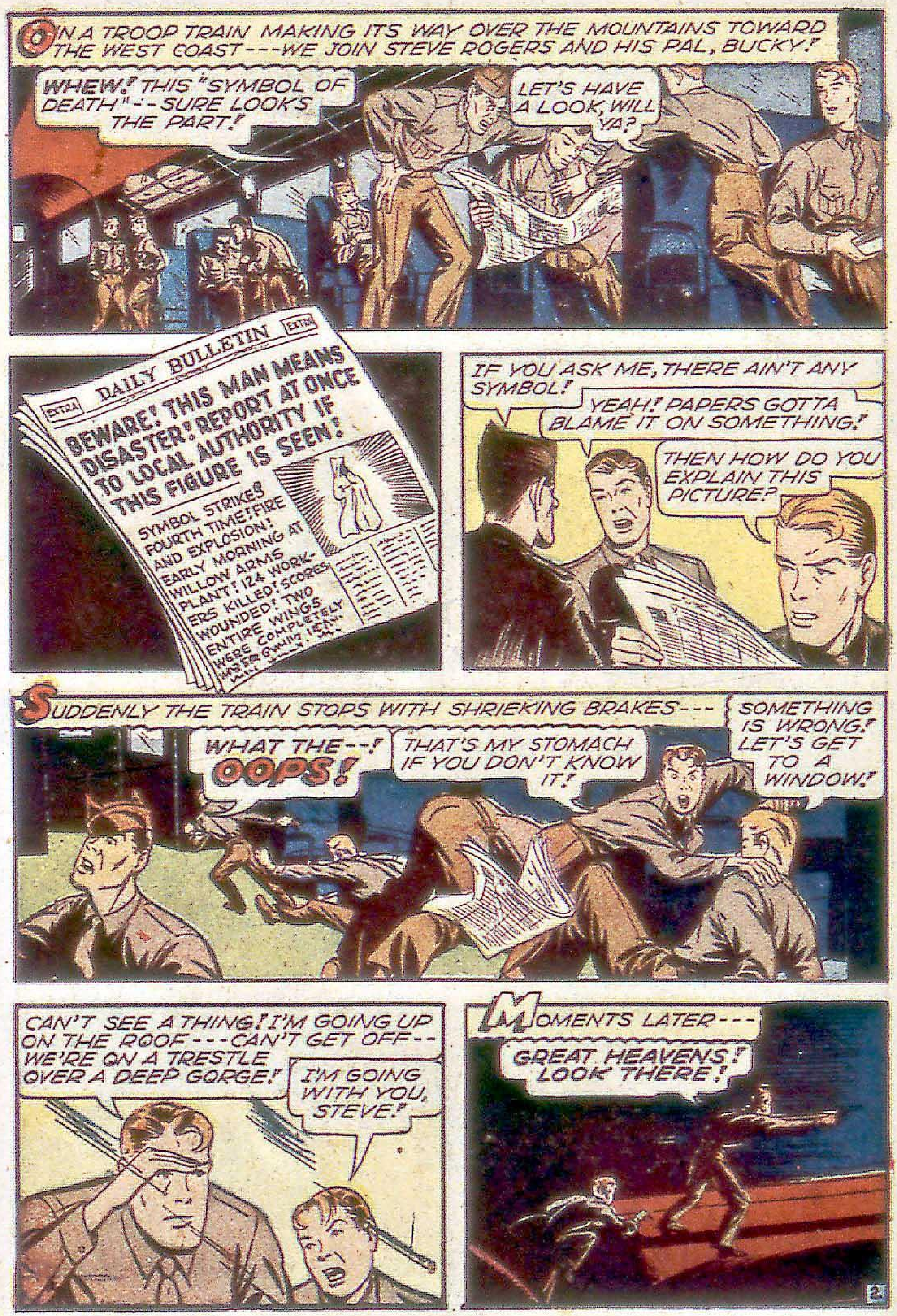

ONLY TWO OF THEM HERE! WHAT OF BETTY AND THE OTHER --?
THEY'RE REVIVING! WE'LL SOON KNOW!
MINUTES LATER--
WHEN THEY KNEW YOU WERE HERE, WE WERE HIDDEN IN THOSE SKINS! I HEARD THE OLD MAN SAY WE WERE TO BE TAKEN TO TUNIS!
I REMEMBER!-- THOSE MUGS WERE CARRYING ANIMALS OUT OF HERE!
THEY MUST HAVE GOTTEN AWAY IN THAT TRUCK THAT WAS IN FRONT! WE MUST STOP THEM! COME ON- THOSE BOXES!
WITH A PILE OF CRATES SERVING AS A LADDER OF ESCAPE ---
COME ON, GIRLS -- WHEN YOU GET OF HERE, SEND AN ALARM TO SEARCH ALL TRUCKS PASSING THAT WAY!
--THE PAIR, ONCE ON THE STREET, COMMANDEER A JEEP AND SPEED TOWARDS TUNIS!
BOY! THESE JEEPS SURE CAN TRAVEL, CAP!
MEANWHILE --AT THE LAST POST ---
NOTHING IN HERE BUT SOME STUFFED ANIMALS!
O.K.--GO AHEAD!
MINUTES LATER--
WEREN'T YOU ORDERED TO SEARCH ALL TRUCKS?
SURE! BUT THAT ONE WAS LOADED WITH SOME STUFFED ANIMALS!
BUT THEY'VE BEEN GONE ONLY A FEW MINUTES --YOU CAN CUT ACROSS THE FIELD AND INTERCEPT THEM!

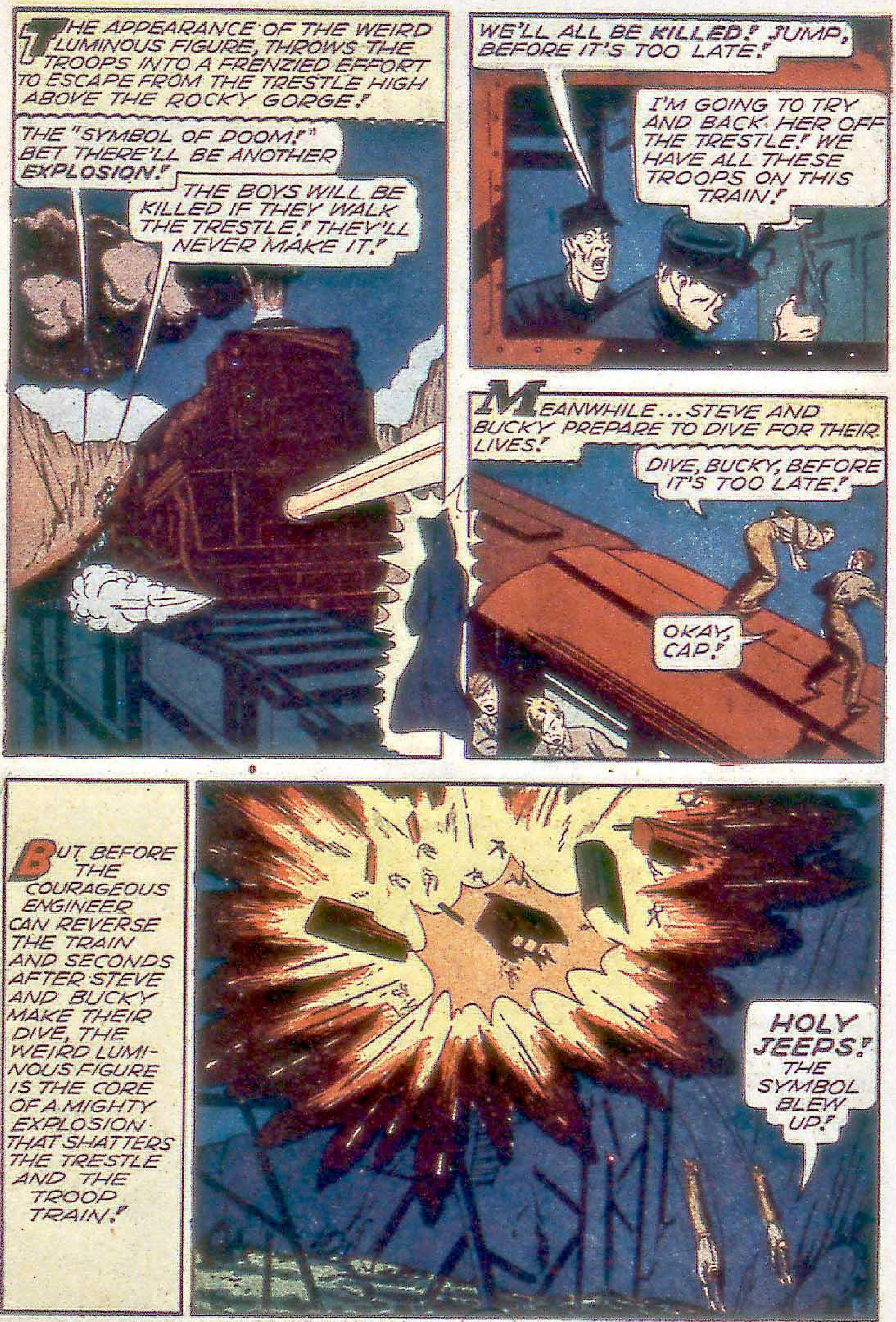

AS THE MURDERERS RACE FOR THE BORDER--
MASTER! A CAR! THEY'RE AFTER US!
PULL UP BY THAT BRIDGE -- WE'LL HIDE UNTIL WE'RE CERTAIN!
HERE'S OUR TRUCK! LET'S GET AT THOSE ANIMALS!
THOSE THUGS HAVE GIVEN US THE SLIP!
QUICK, BUCKY! THE KNIFE!
I HOPE THE GIRLS AREN'T HURT!
WHILE BENEATH THE BRIDGE---
IT'S CAPTAIN AMERICA! HE ESCAPED OUR TRAP!
AS SOON AS THOSE WACS ARE RELEASED, WE'LL BLAST THEM TO BITS!
WHEW! WE THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER FIND US!
BETTER LATE THAN NEVER, BETTY! GLAD YOU'RE NOT HURT!
WE'LL USE THE TRUCK TO TAKE THE GIRLS BACK!
AND AS CAP TRIES VAINLY TO START THE MOTOR -- A HAIL OF BULLETS HITS THE TRUCK!
OH! THEY'VE GOT ME!
THOSE RATS MUST HAVE THROWN A MONKEY WRENCH INTO THE MOTOR!
CAP! THEY GOT BETTY!
AT THAT MOMENT -- BACK AT THE POST --
HEY FELLOWS! LOOK WHAT COMES A-CALLING!
I HOPE THOSE WACS WON'T STAY AND SPOIL OUR BALL GAME!
AT YOUR SERVICE!
WE'RE LOOKING FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA WHO WAS AFTER A TRUCK FULL OF NAZIS!

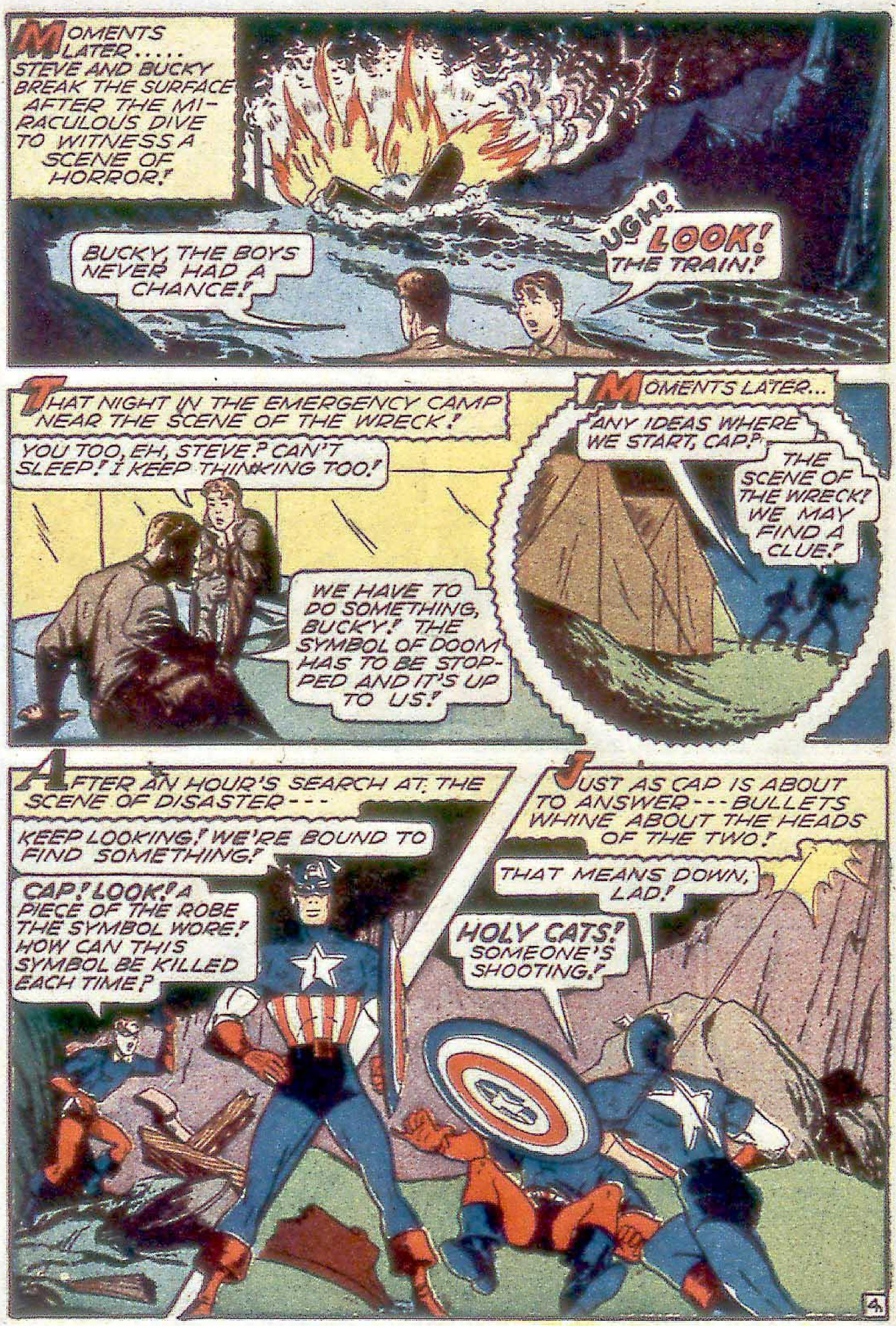

THE SERGEANT EXPLAINS AND---
THEY'RE A TOUGH GANG-- WE'LL NEED SOME GUNS!
SORRY! WE CAN'T GIVE OUT FIREARMS!
NEVER MIND! WE'LL BORROW SOME BASEBALL BATS! COME ON, SOLDIER--GIVE!
THE GALLANT WACS DRIVE INTO THE MIDST OF THE FORAY!
HEY, CAP! LOOK WHAT'S COMING!
ARMED WITH BATS, THE WACS SPRING INTO ACTION!
HIMMEL! SOLDIERS--- AND OUR AMMUNITION ALMOST GONE!
--WE'LL HAVE TO RUN FOR IT!
AS CAP AND BUCKY QUIETLY FADE FROM THE SCENE---
BUCKY, THOSE WACS SEEM TO HAVE THE SITUATION WELL IN HAND--COME ON!
I HATE TO MISS OUT ON A FINISH, CAP-BUT IT DOES LOOK AS IF WE'RE NOT NEEDED!

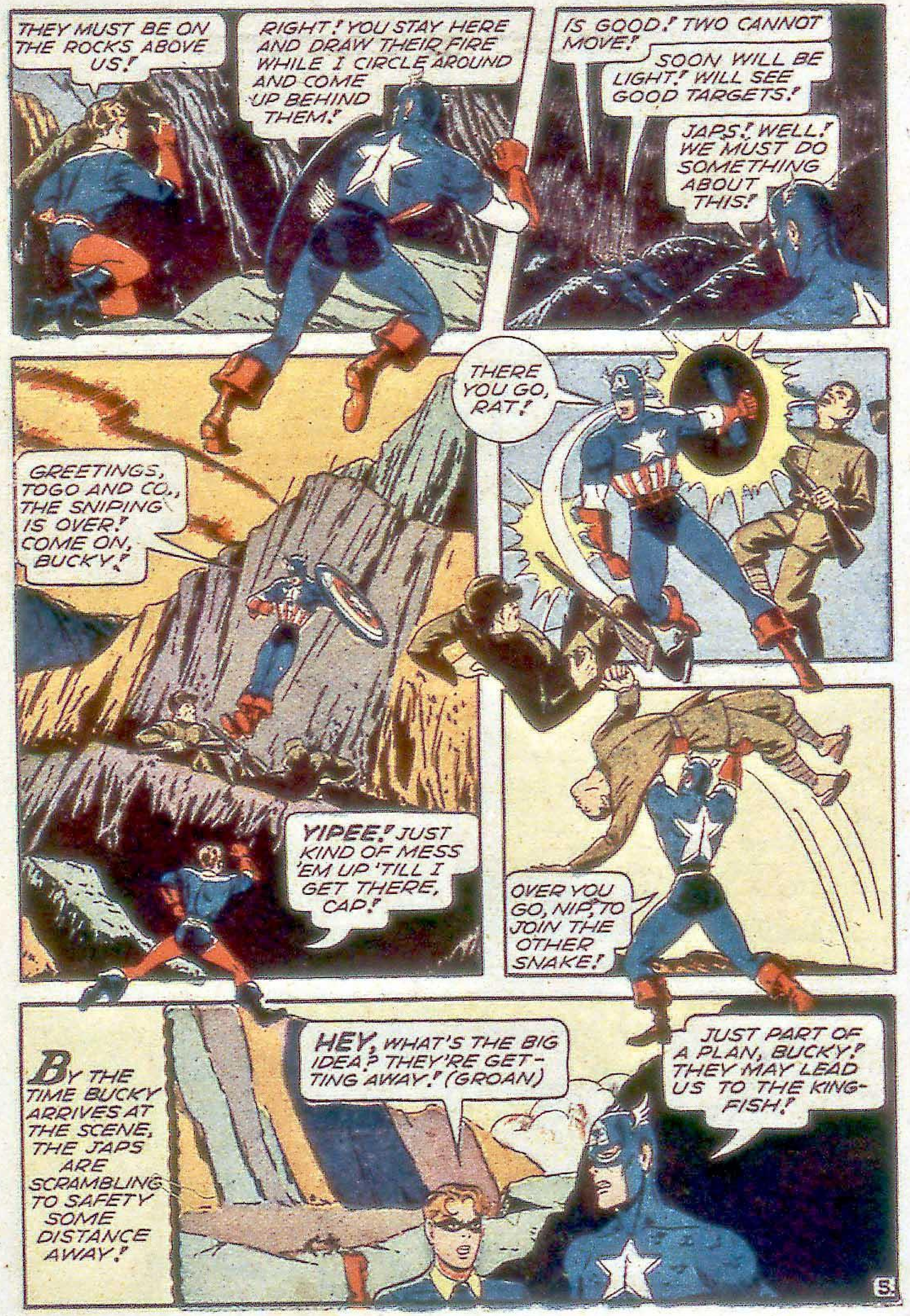

THE ESCAPING MASTER GETS AS FAR AS THE RIVER!
A GOOD BATH WON'T HURT THIS FILTHY OLD NAZI SPY!
BET IT'S THE FIRST HE'S HAD IN MONTHS!
GLUG! GLUG!
NOW GET ON YOUR FEET--WE DON'T HIT A WORM WHEN HE'S DOWN!
PLEASE! I'M A POOR DEFENSELESS OLD MAN!
THE BATTLE ENDS IN OVERWHELMING VICTORY FOR THE WACS!
HERE'S ANOTHER PRISONER, LIEUT. ROSS---OLD SOUR PUSS HIMSELF!
NICE WORK! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF--? CAPTAIN AMERICA--HE'S GONE!
THE NEXT DAY IN CAMP---
YOU KNOW, BUCKY--THOSE WACS CAN FIGHT--OUR COUNTRY SURE COULD USE MORE OF THEM!
I DON'T LIKE IT! BETTY WILL CROW FOR YEARS ABOUT THE SUPERIORITY OF WOMEN! OH, OH! HERE SHE COMES!
GEE, BETTY--WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE SAFE!
WE HEARD ABOUT YOUR RESCUE!
HOW DARE YOU ADDRESS A SUPERIOR OFFICER IN THAT MANNER?
SORRY, SIR! MEAN MA'AM!
AT EASE, YOU CHUMPS! I SHOULD SLAP YOU IN THE BRIG, THOUGH--FOR RUNNING OUT ON ME!

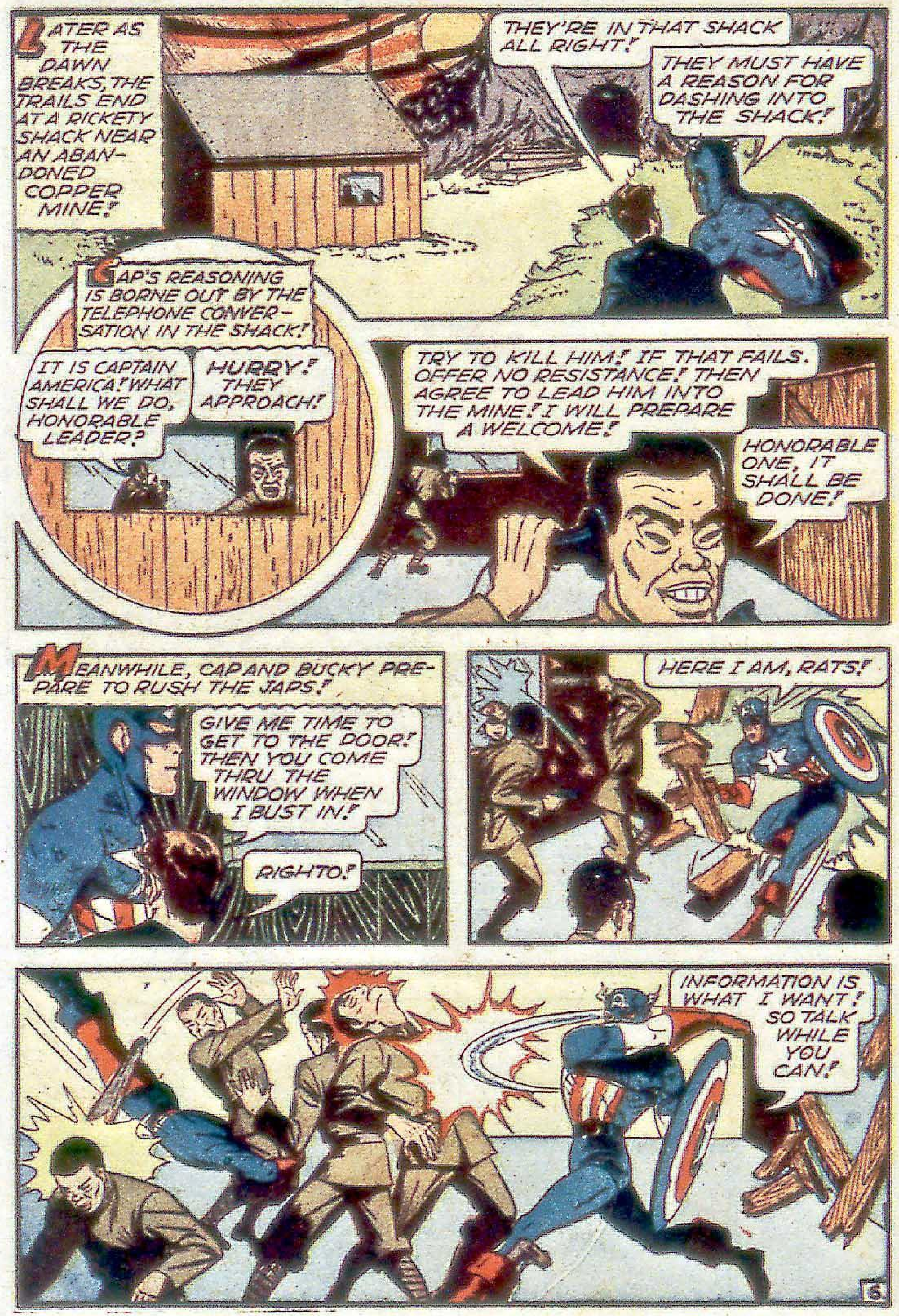

CAPTAIN AMERICA
PANIC!
FIRE!
SABOTAGE!
DEATH!
WHEREVER THE WEIRD HIDDEN FIGURE APPEARS --- CATASTROPHE STRIKES! CAN CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE HOODED HORROR??
THE SYMBOL OF DOOM!

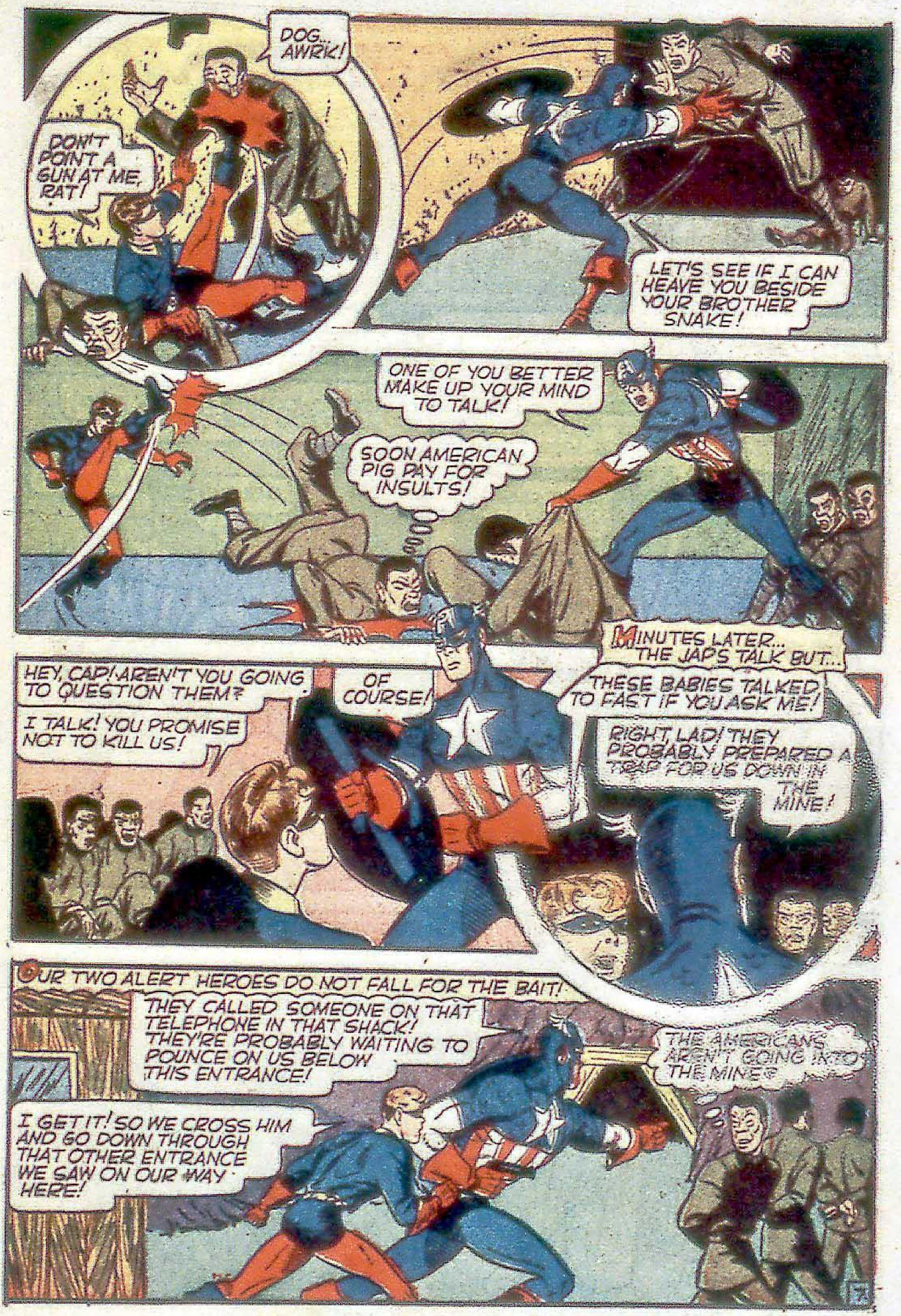

ON A TROOP TRAIN MAKING ITS WAY OVER THE MOUNTAINS TOWARD THE WEST COAST---WE JOIN STEVE ROGERS AND HIS PAL, BUCKY!
WHEW! THIS "SYMBOL OF DEATH"--SURE LOOKS THE PART!
LET'S HAVE A LOOK, WILL YA?
DAILY BULLETIN
EXTRA
EXTRA
BEWARE! THIS MAN MEANS DISASTER! REPORT AT ONCE TO LOCAL AUTHORITY IF THIS FIGURE IS SEEN!
SYMBOL STRIKES FOURTH TIME! FIRE AND EXPLOSION! EARLY MORNING AT WILLOW ARMS PLANT! 124 WORKERS KILLED! SCORES WOUNDED! TWO ENTIRE WINGS WERE COMPLETELY
IF YOU ASK ME, THERE AIN'T ANY SYMBOL!
YEAH! PAPERS GOTTA BLAME IT ON SOMETHING!
THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THIS PICTURE?
SUDDENLY THE TRAIN STOPS WITH SHRIEKING BRAKES---
WHAT THE--! OOPS!
THAT'S MY STOMACH IF YOU DON'T KNOW IT!
SOMETHING IS WRONG! LET'S GET TO A WINDOW!
CAN'T SEE A THING! I'M GOING UP ON THE ROOF---CAN'T GET OFF--WE'RE ON A TRESTLE OVER A DEEP GORGE!
I'M GOING WITH YOU, STEVE!
MOMENTS LATER---
GREAT HEAVENS! LOOK THERE!

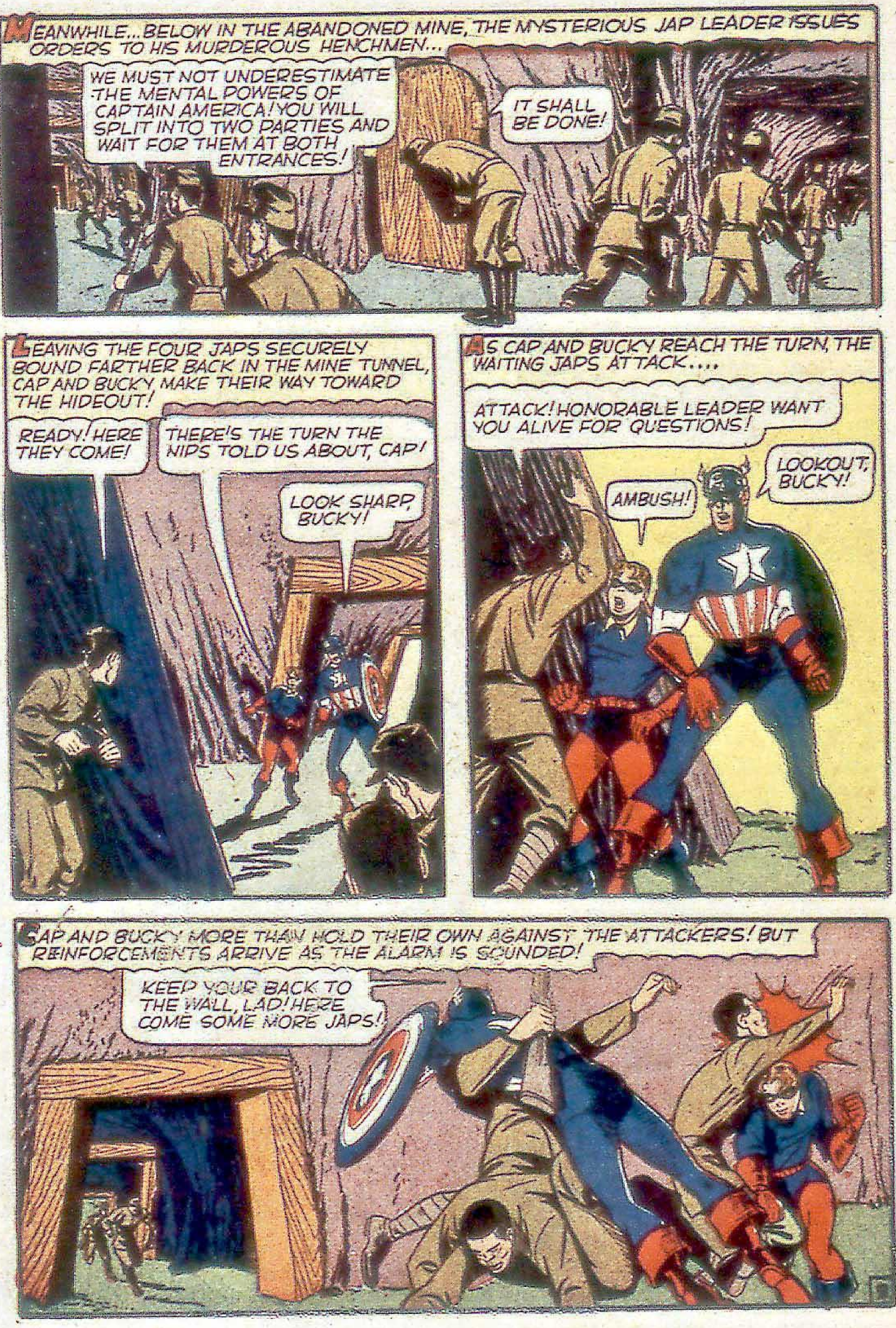

THE APPEARANCE OF THE WEIRD LUMINOUS FIGURE, THROWS THE TROOPS INTO A FRENZIED EFFORT TO ESCAPE FROM THE TRESTLE HIGH ABOVE THE ROCKY GORGE!
THE "SYMBOL OF DOOM!" BET THERE'LL BE ANOTHER EXPLOSION!
THE BOYS WILL BE KILLED IF THEY WALK THE TRESTLE! THEY'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
WE'LL ALL BE KILLED! JUMP, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
I'M GOING TO TRY AND BACK HER OFF THE TRESTLE! WE HAVE ALL THESE TROOPS ON THIS TRAIN!
MEANWHILE... STEVE AND BUCKY PREPARE TO DIVE FOR THEIR LIVES!
DIVE, BUCKY, BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
OKAY, CAP!
BUT BEFORE THE COURAGEOUS ENGINEER CAN REVERSE THE TRAIN AND SECONDS AFTER STEVE AND BUCKY MAKE THEIR DIVE, THE WEIRD LUMINOUS FIGURE IS THE CORE OF A MIGHTY EXPLOSION THAT SHATTERS THE TRESTLE AND THE TROOP TRAIN!
HOLY JEEPS! THE SYMBOL BLEW UP!

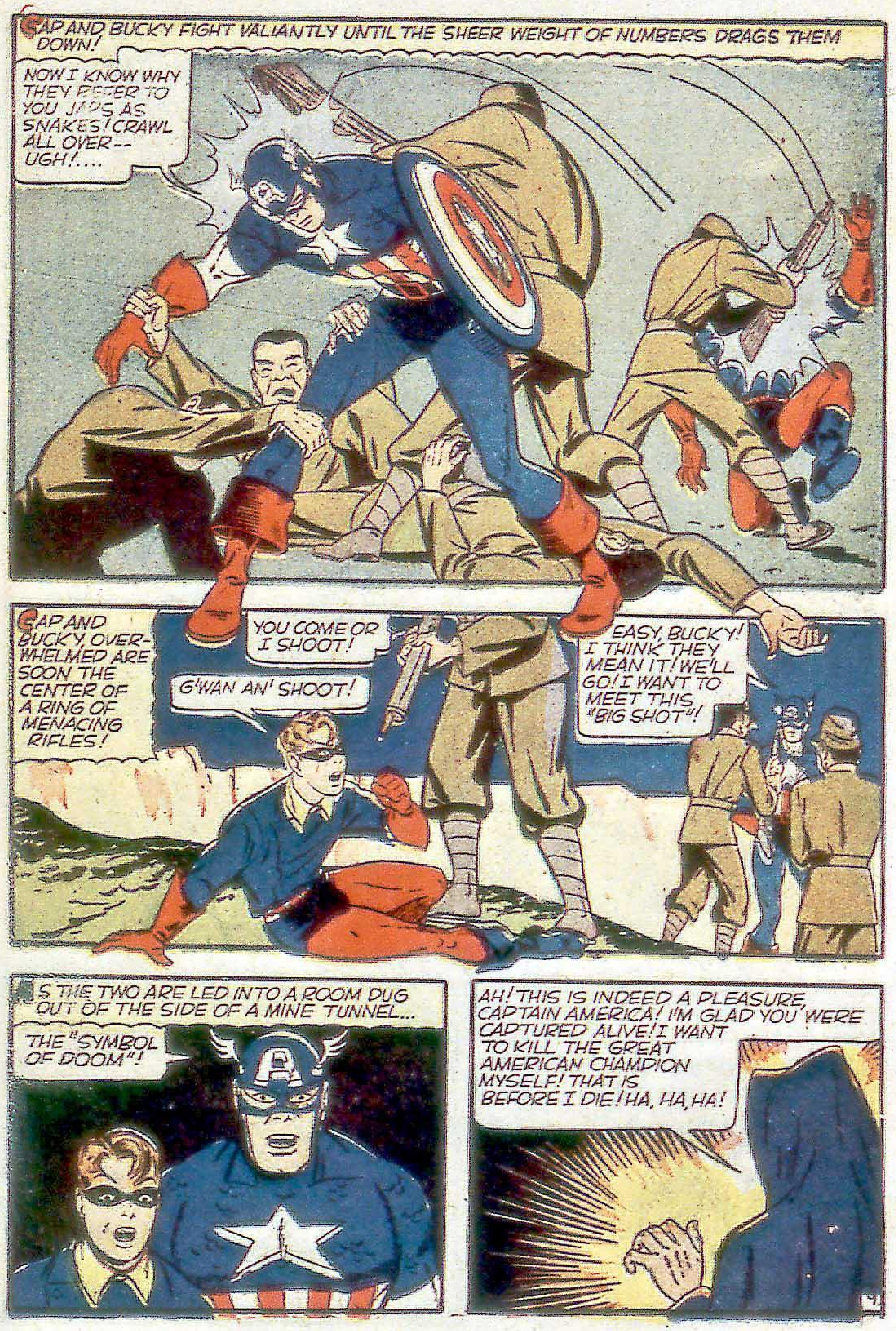

MOMENTS LATER..... STEVE AND BUCKY BREAK THE SURFACE AFTER THE MIRACULOUS DIVE TO WITNESS A SCENE OF HORROR!
UGH! LOOK! THE TRAIN!
BUCKY, THE BOYS NEVER HAD A CHANCE!
THAT NIGHT IN THE EMERGENCY CAMP NEAR THE SCENE OF THE WRECK!
YOU TOO, EH, STEVE? CAN'T SLEEP! I KEEP THINKING TOO!
WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING, BUCKY! THE SYMBOL OF DOOM HAS TO BE STOPPED AND IT'S UP TO US!
MOMENTS LATER...
ANY IDEAS WHERE WE START, CAP?
THE SCENE OF THE WRECK! WE MAY FIND A CLUE!
AFTER AN HOUR'S SEARCH AT THE SCENE OF DISASTER---
KEEP LOOKING! WE'RE BOUND TO FIND SOMETHING!
CAP! LOOK! A PIECE OF THE ROBE THE SYMBOL WORE! HOW CAN THIS SYMBOL BE KILLED EACH TIME?
JUST AS CAP IS ABOUT TO ANSWER---BULLETS WHINE ABOUT THE HEADS OF THE TWO!
THAT MEANS DOWN, LAD!
HOLY CATS! SOMEONE'S SHOOTING!

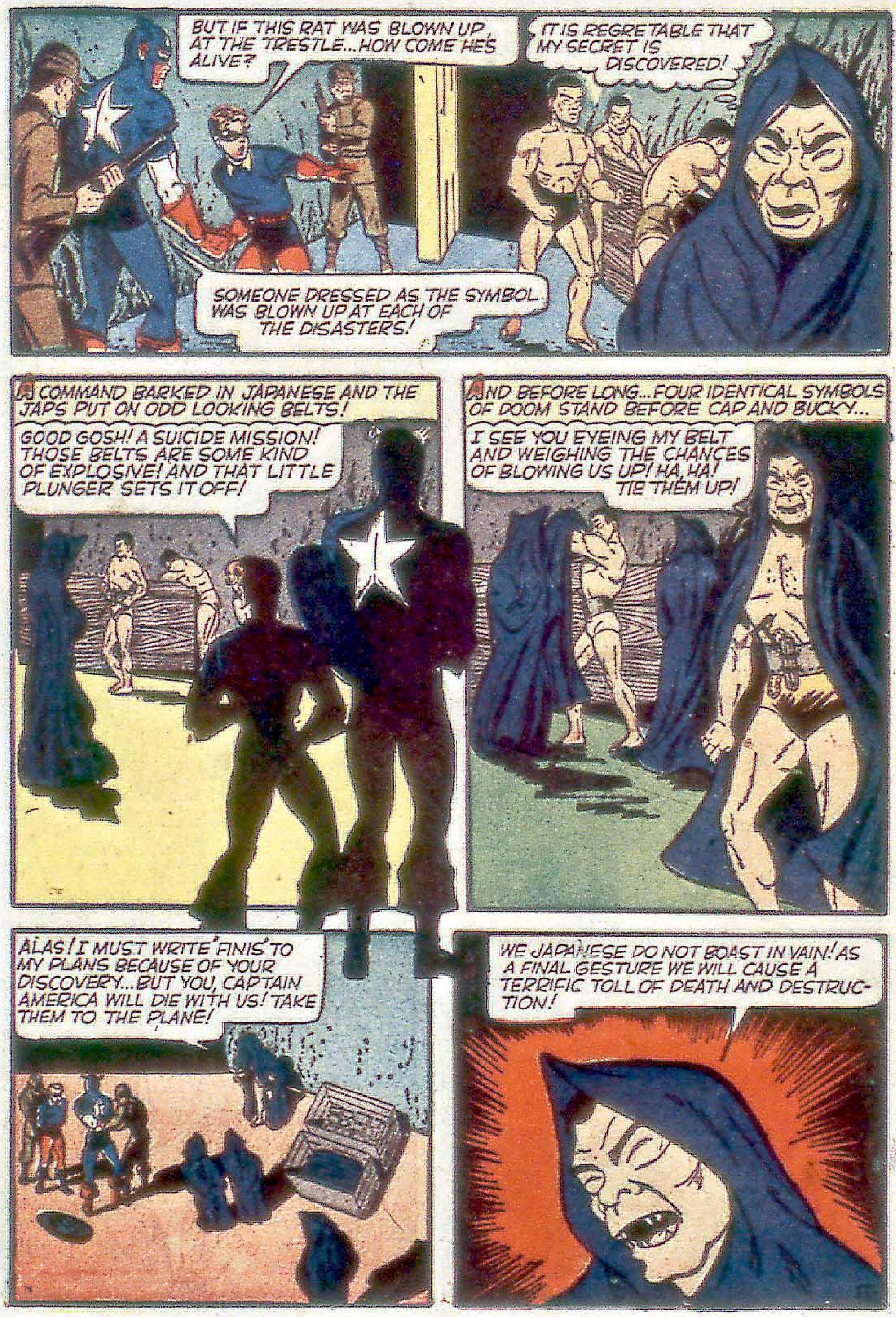

THEY MUST BE ON THE ROCKS ABOVE US!
RIGHT! YOU STAY HERE AND DRAW THEIR FIRE WHILE I CIRCLE AROUND AND COME UP BEHIND THEM!
IS GOOD! TWO CANNOT MOVE!
SOON WILL BE LIGHT! WILL SEE GOOD TARGETS!
JAPS! WELL! WE MUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS!
THERE YOU GO, RAT!
GREETINGS, TOGO AND CO., THE SNIPING IS OVER! COME ON, BUCKY!
YIPEE! JUST KIND OF MESS 'EM UP 'TILL I GET THERE, CAP!
OVER YOU GO, NIP, TO JOIN THE OTHER SNAKE!
BY THE TIME BUCKY ARRIVES AT THE SCENE, THE JAPS ARE SCRAMBLING TO SAFETY SOME DISTANCE AWAY!
HEY, WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA? THEY'RE GETTING AWAY! (GROAN)
JUST PART OF A PLAN, BUCKY! THEY MAY LEAD US TO THE KINGFISH!

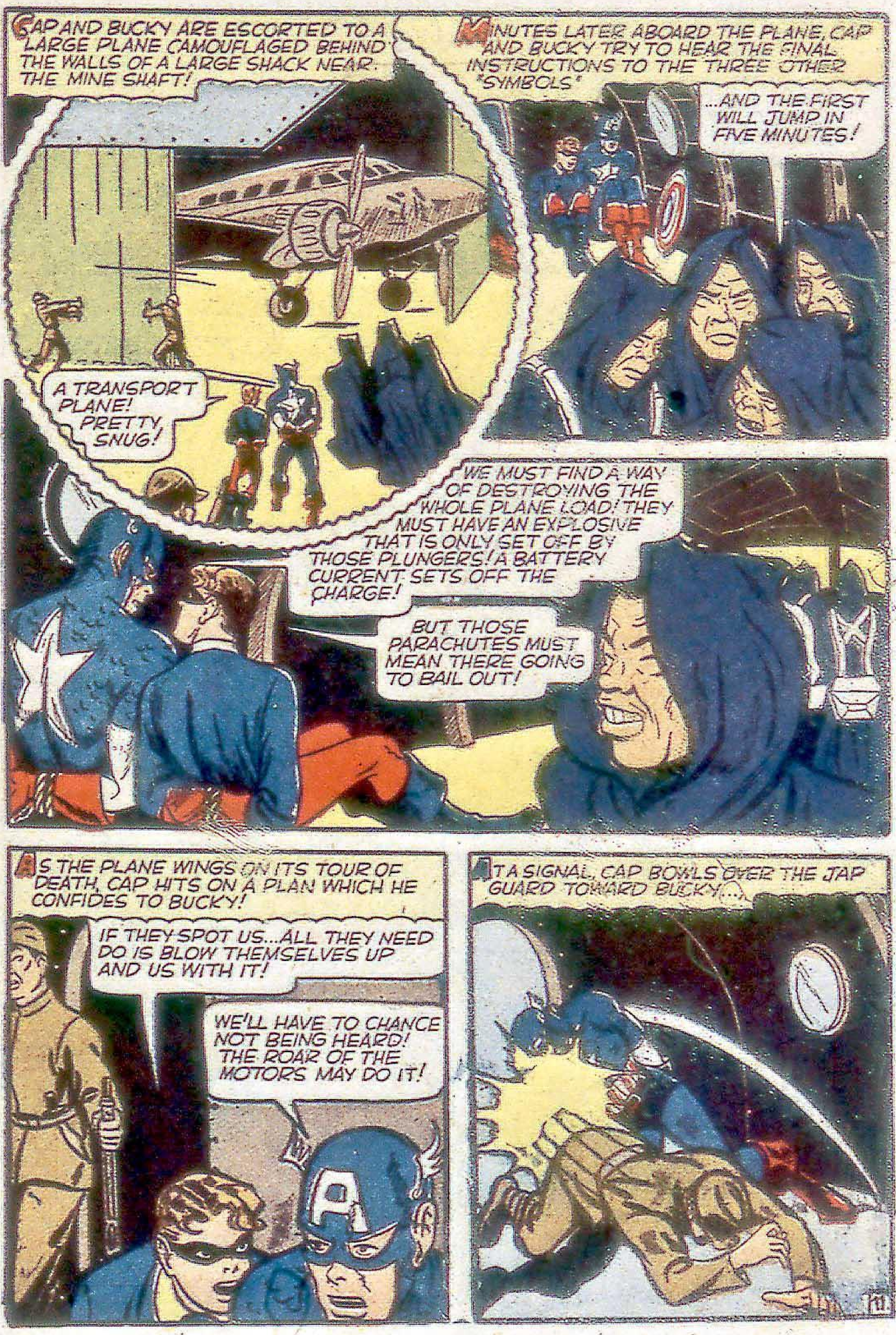

LATER AS THE DAWN BREAKS, THE TRAILS END AT A RICKETY SHACK NEAR AN ABANDONED COPPER MINE!
THEY'RE IN THAT SHACK ALL RIGHT!
THEY MUST HAVE A REASON FOR DASHING INTO THE SHACK!
CAP'S REASONING IS BORNE OUT BY THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION IN THE SHACK!
IT IS CAPTAIN AMERICA! WHAT SHALL WE DO, HONORABLE LEADER?
HURRY! THEY APPROACH!
TRY TO KILL HIM! IF THAT FAILS. OFFER NO RESISTANCE! THEN AGREE TO LEAD HIM INTO THE MINE! I WILL PREPARE A WELCOME!
HONORABLE ONE, IT SHALL BE DONE!
MEANWHILE, CAP AND BUCKY PREPARE TO RUSH THE JAPS!
GIVE ME TIME TO GET TO THE DOOR! THEN YOU COME THRU THE WINDOW WHEN I BUST IN!
RIGHTO!
HERE I AM, RATS!
INFORMATION IS WHAT I WANT! SO TALK WHILE YOU CAN!

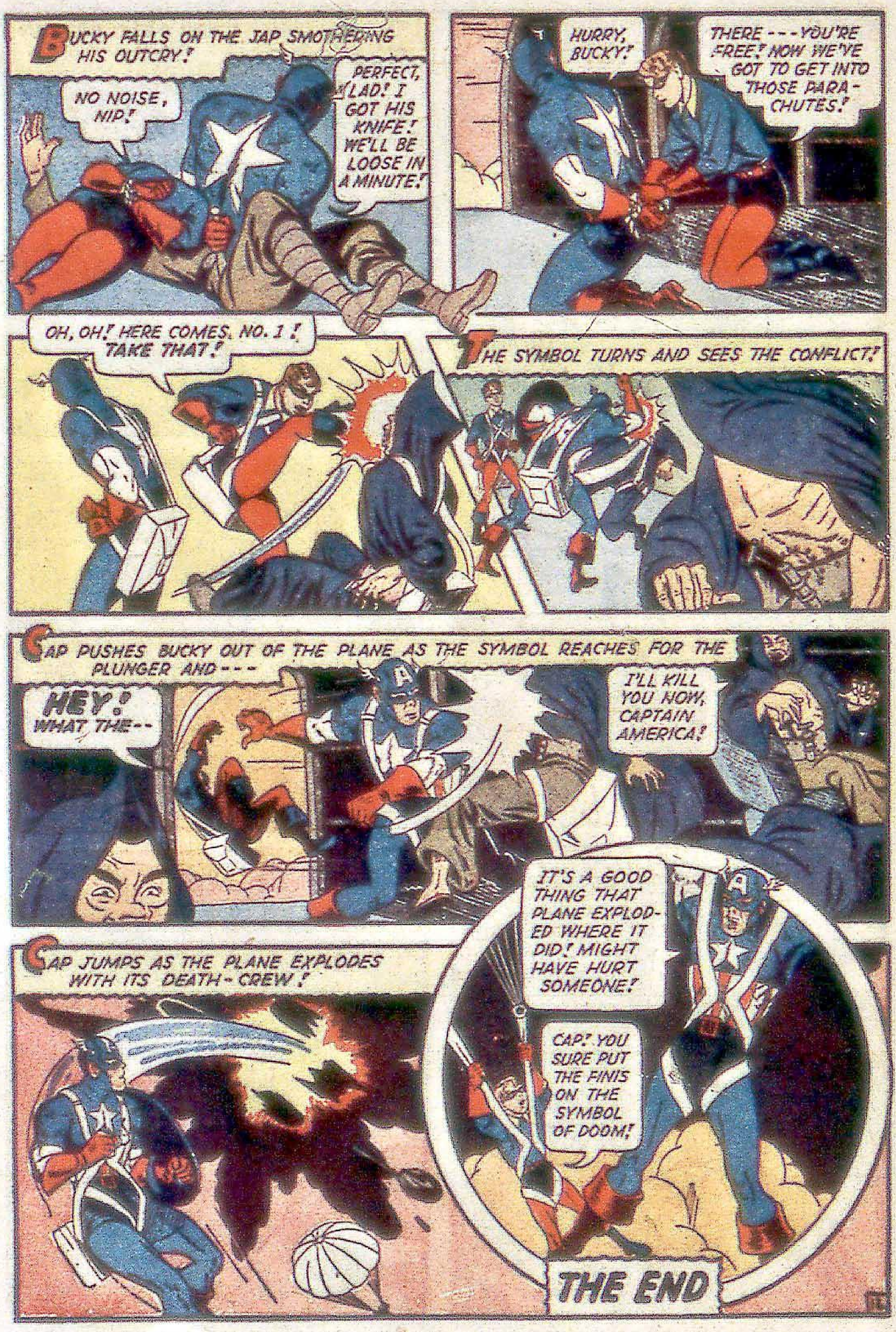

DOG.. AWRK!
DON'T POINT A GUN AT ME, RAT!
LET'S SEE IF I CAN HEAVE YOU BESIDE YOUR BROTHER SNAKE!
ONE OF YOU BETTER MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO TALK!
SOON AMERICAN PIG PAY FOR INSULTS!
MINUTES LATER... THE JAPS TALK BUT...
HEY, CAP! AREN'T YOU GOING TO QUESTION THEM?
OF COURSE!
I TALK! YOU PROMISE NOT TO KILL US!
THESE BABIES TALKED TO FAST IF YOU ASK ME!
RIGHT, LAD! THEY PROBABLY PREPARED A TRAP FOR US DOWN IN THE MINE!
OUR TWO ALERT HEROES DO NOT FALL FOR THE BAIT!
THEY CALLED SOMEONE ON THAT TELEPHONE IN THAT SHACK! THEY'RE PROBABLY WAITING TO POUNCE ON US BELOW THIS ENTRANCE!
THE AMERICANS AREN'T GOING INTO THE MINE?
I GET IT! SO WE CROSS HIM AND GO DOWN THROUGH THAT OTHER ENTRANCE WE SAW ON OUR WAY HERE!


MEANWHILE...BELOW IN THE ABANDONED MINE, THE MYSTERIOUS JAP LEADER ISSUES ORDERS TO HIS MURDEROUS HENCHMEN...
WE MUST NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE MENTAL POWERS OF CAPTAIN AMERICA! YOU WILL SPLIT INTO TWO PARTIES AND WAIT FOR THEM AT BOTH ENTRANCES!
IT SHALL BE DONE!
LEAVING THE FOUR JAPS SECURELY BOUND FARTHER BACK IN THE MINE TUNNEL, CAP AND BUCKY MAKE THEIR WAY TOWARD THE HIDEOUT!
READY! HERE THEY COME!
THERE'S THE TURN THE NIPS TOLD US ABOUT, CAP!
LOOK SHARP, BUCKY!
AS CAP AND BUCKY REACH THE TURN, THE WAITING JAPS ATTACK....
ATTACK! HONORABLE LEADER WANT YOU ALIVE FOR QUESTIONS!
AMBUSH!
LOOKOUT, BUCKY!
CAP AND BUCKY MORE THAN HOLD THEIR OWN AGAINST THE ATTACKERS! BUT REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVE AS THE ALARM IS SOUNDED!
KEEP YOUR BACK TO THE WALL, LAD! HERE COME SOME MORE JAPS!


CAP AND BUCKY FIGHT VALIANTLY UNTIL THE SHEER WEIGHT OF NUMBERS DRAGS THEM DOWN!
NOW I KNOW WHY THEY REFER TO YOU JAPS AS SNAKES! CRAWL ALL OVER-- UGH!....
CAP AND BUCKY, OVERWHELMED ARE SOON THE CENTER OF A RING OF MENACING RIFLES!
YOU COME OR I SHOOT!
G'WAN AN' SHOOT!
EASY, BUCKY! I THINK THEY MEAN IT! WE'LL GO! I WANT TO MEET THIS "BIG SHOT"!
AS THE TWO ARE LED INTO A ROOM DUG OUT OF THE SIDE OF A MINE TUNNEL...
THE "SYMBOL OF DOOM"!
AH! THIS IS INDEED A PLEASURE, CAPTAIN AMERICA! I'M GLAD YOU WERE CAPTURED ALIVE! I WANT TO KILL THE GREAT AMERICAN CHAMPION MYSELF! THAT IS BEFORE I DIE! HA, HA, HA!


BUT IF THIS RAT WAS BLOWN UP AT THE TRESTLE... HOW COME HE'S ALIVE?
IT IS REGRETABLE THAT MY SECRET IS DISCOVERED!
SOMEONE DRESSED AS THE SYMBOL WAS BLOWN UP AT EACH OF THE DISASTERS!
A COMMAND BARKED IN JAPANESE AND THE JAPS PUT ON ODD LOOKING BELTS!
GOOD GOSH! A SUICIDE MISSION! THOSE BELTS ARE SOME KIND OF EXPLOSIVE! AND THAT LITTLE PLUNGER SETS IT OFF!
AND BEFORE LONG... FOUR IDENTICAL SYMBOLS OF DOOM STAND BEFORE CAP AND BUCKY...
I SEE YOU EYEING MY BELT AND WEIGHING THE CHANCES OF BLOWING US UP! HA, HA! TIE THEM UP!
ALAS! I MUST WRITE "FINIS" TO MY PLANS BECAUSE OF YOUR DISCOVERY... BUT YOU, CAPTAIN AMERICA WILL DIE WITH US! TAKE THEM TO THE PLANE!
WE JAPANESE DO NOT BOAST IN VAIN! AS A FINAL GESTURE WE WILL CAUSE A TERRIFIC TOLL OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION!


CAP AND BUCKY ARE ESCORTED TO A LARGE PLANE CAMOUFLAGED BEHIND THE WALLS OF A LARGE SHACK NEAR THE MINE SHAFT!
A TRANSPORT PLANE! PRETTY SNUG!
MINUTES LATER ABOARD THE PLANE, CAP AND BUCKY TRY TO HEAR THE FINAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE THREE OTHER "SYMBOLS"
...AND THE FIRST WILL JUMP IN FIVE MINUTES!
WE MUST FIND A WAY OF DESTROYING THE WHOLE PLANE LOAD! THEY MUST HAVE AN EXPLOSIVE THAT IS ONLY SET OFF BY THOSE PLUNGERS! A BATTERY CURRENT SETS OFF THE CHARGE!
BUT THOSE PARACHUTES MUST MEAN THERE GOING TO BAIL OUT!
AS THE PLANE WINGS ON ITS TOUR OF DEATH, CAP HITS ON A PLAN WHICH HE CONFIDES TO BUCKY!
IF THEY SPOT US...ALL THEY NEED DO IS BLOW THEMSELVES UP AND US WITH IT!
WE'LL HAVE TO CHANCE NOT BEING HEARD! THE ROAR OF THE MOTORS MAY DO IT!
AT A SIGNAL, CAP BOWLS OVER THE JAP GUARD TOWARD BUCKY...


BUCKY FALLS ON THE JAP SMOTHERING HIS OUTCRY!
NO NOISE, NIP!
PERFECT, LAD! I GOT HIS KNIFE! WE'LL BE LOOSE IN A MINUTE!
HURRY, BUCKY!
THERE---YOU'RE FREE! NOW WE'VE GOT TO GET INTO THOSE PARACHUTES!
OH, OH! HERE COMES NO. 1! TAKE THAT!
THE SYMBOL TURNS AND SEES THE CONFLICT!
CAP PUSHES BUCKY OUT OF THE PLANE AS THE SYMBOL REACHES FOR THE PLUNGER AND---
HEY! WHAT THE--
I'LL KILL YOU NOW, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
CAP JUMPS AS THE PLANE EXPLODES WITH ITS DEATH-CREW!
IT'S A GOOD THING THAT PLANE EXPLODED WHERE IT DID! MIGHT HAVE HURT SOMEONE!
CAP! YOU SURE PUT THE FINIS ON THE SYMBOL OF DOOM!
THE END

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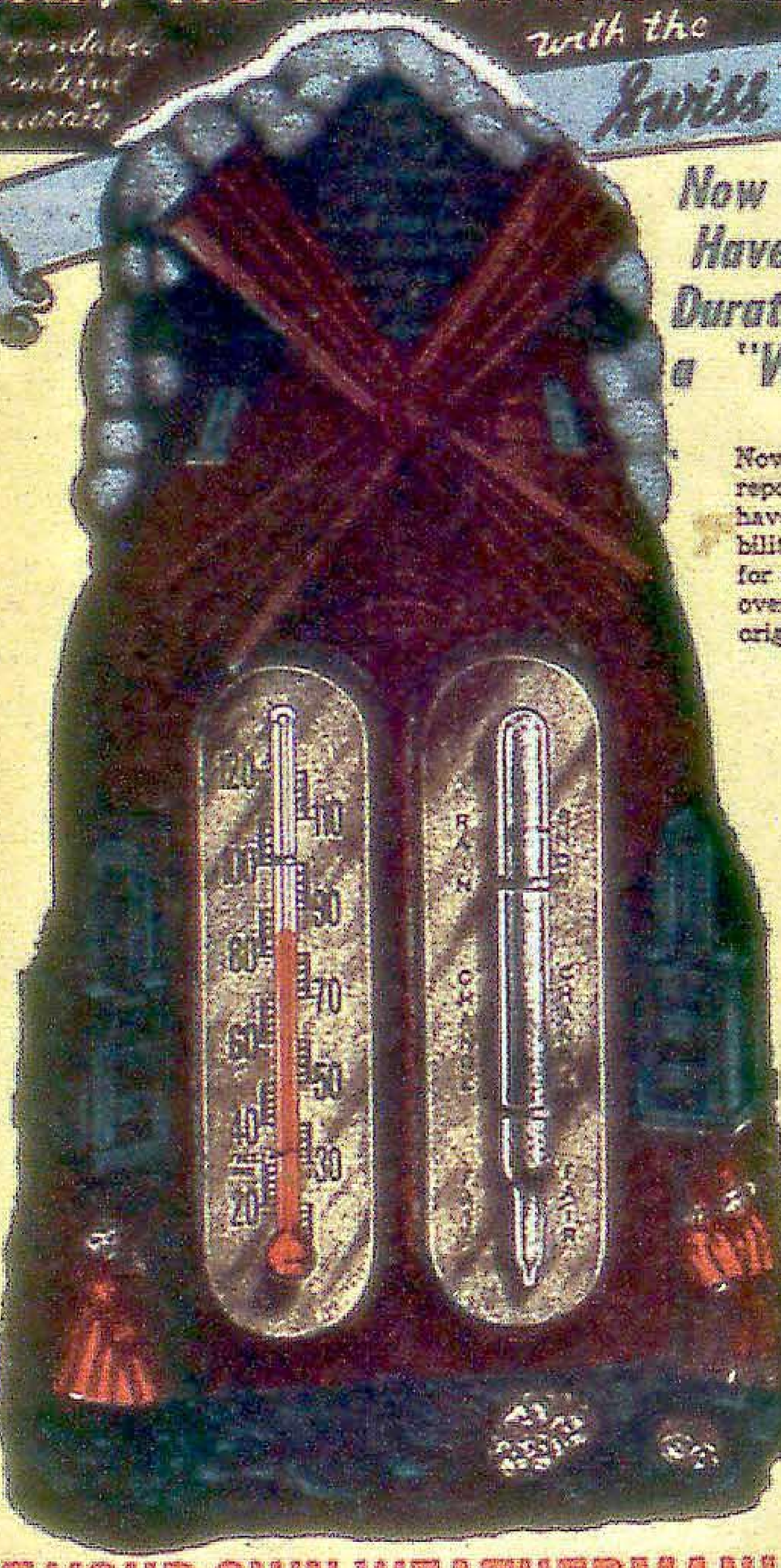

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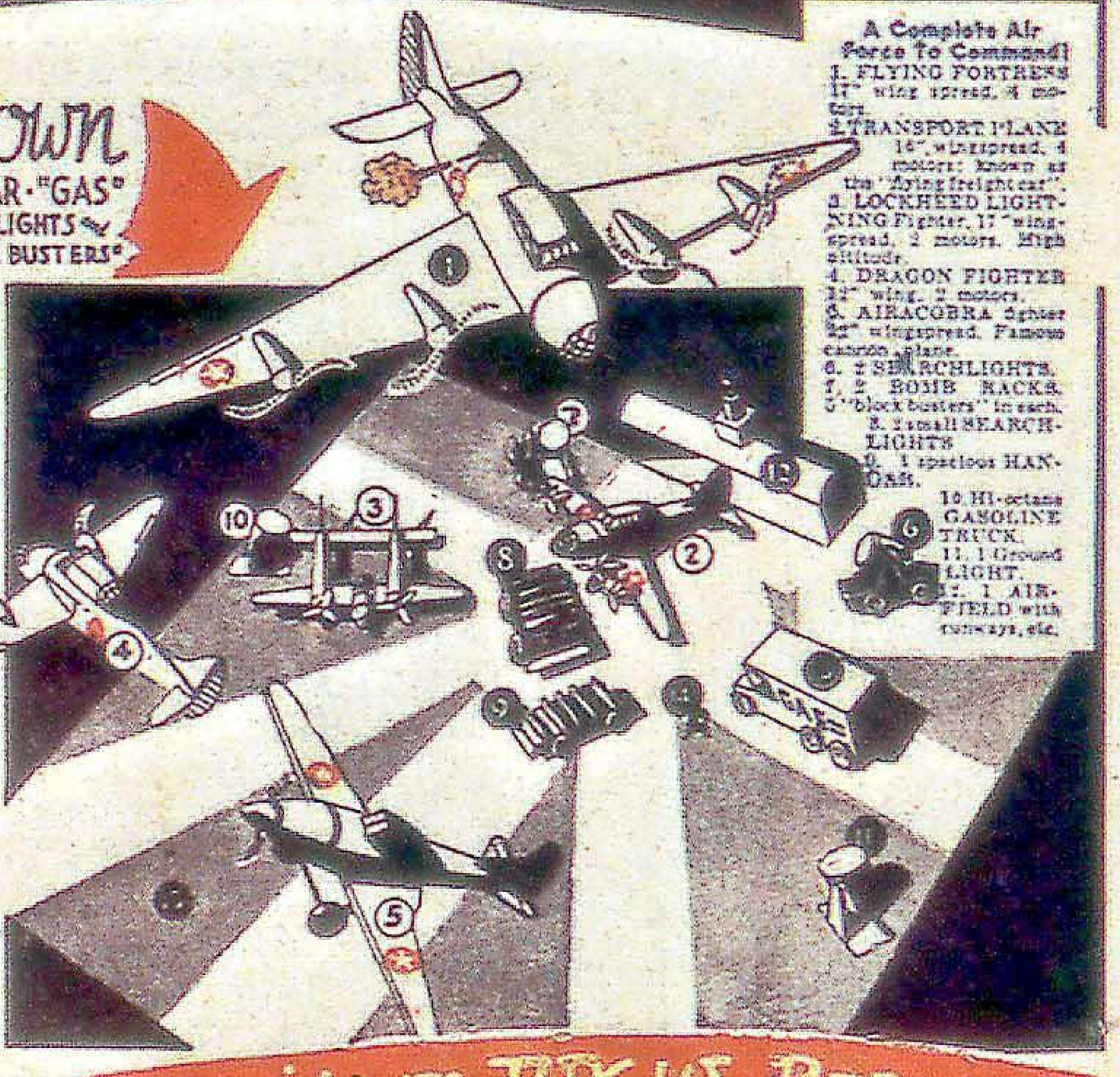

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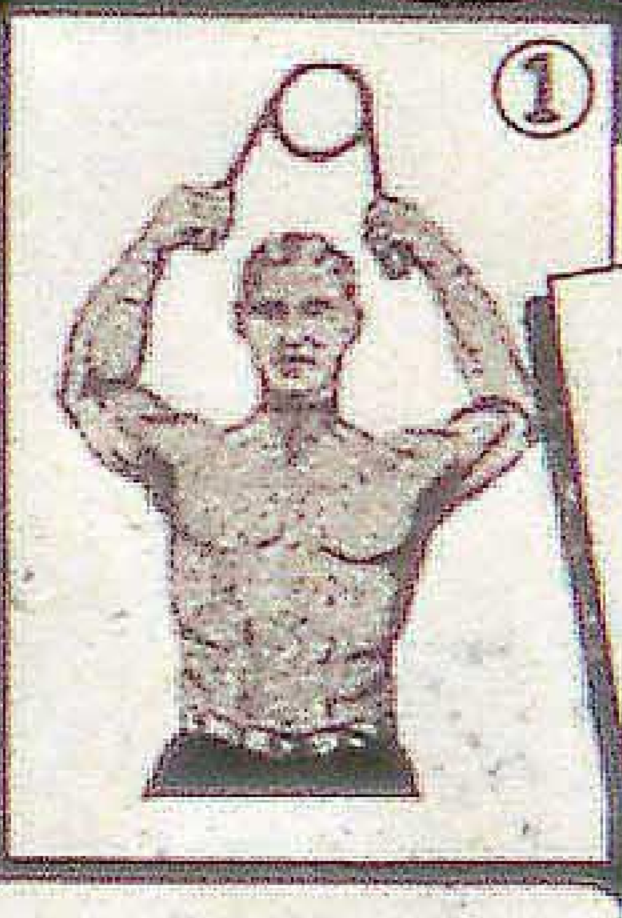
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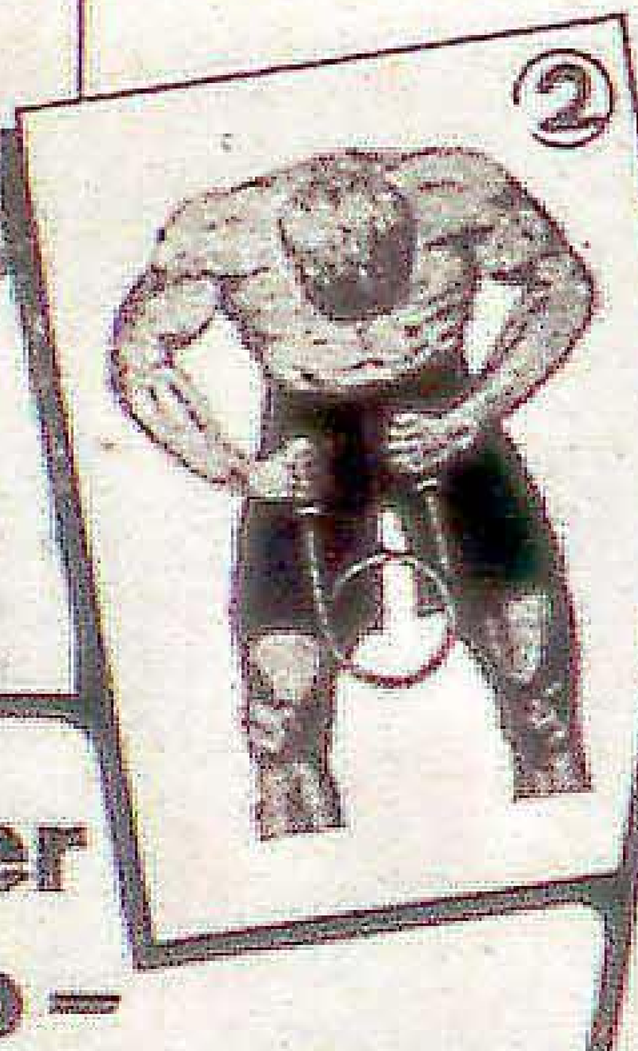
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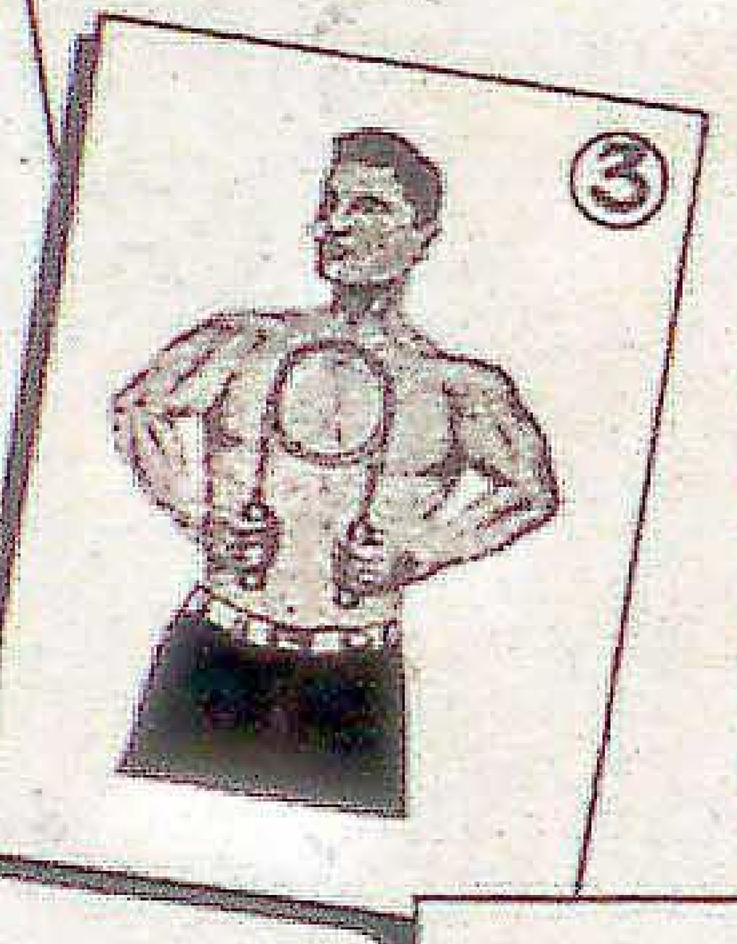
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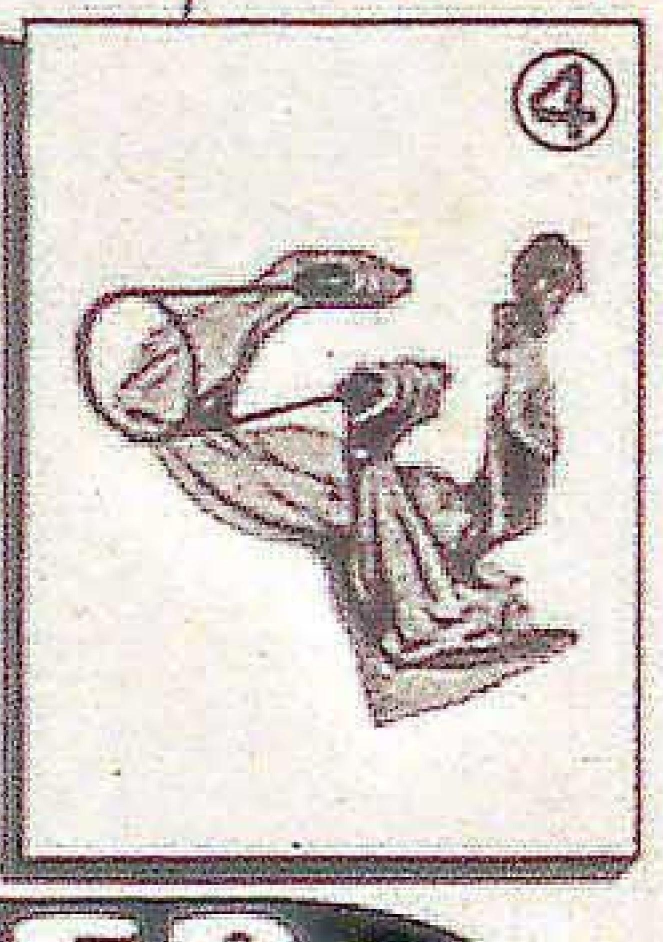
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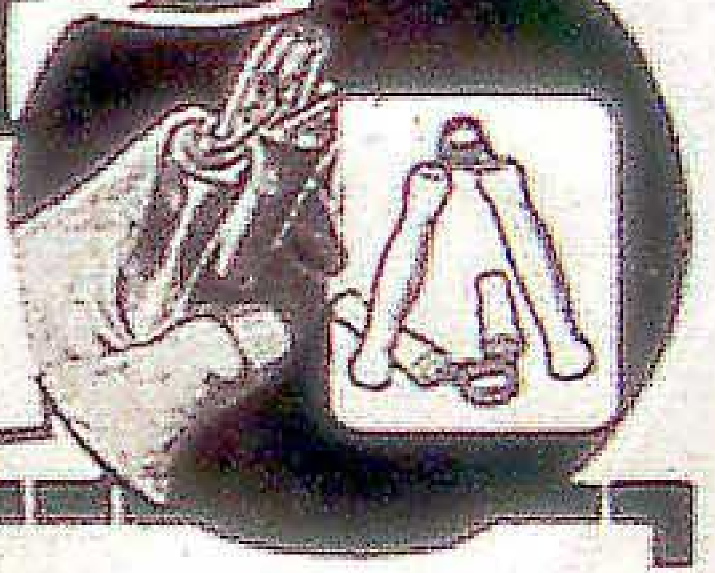

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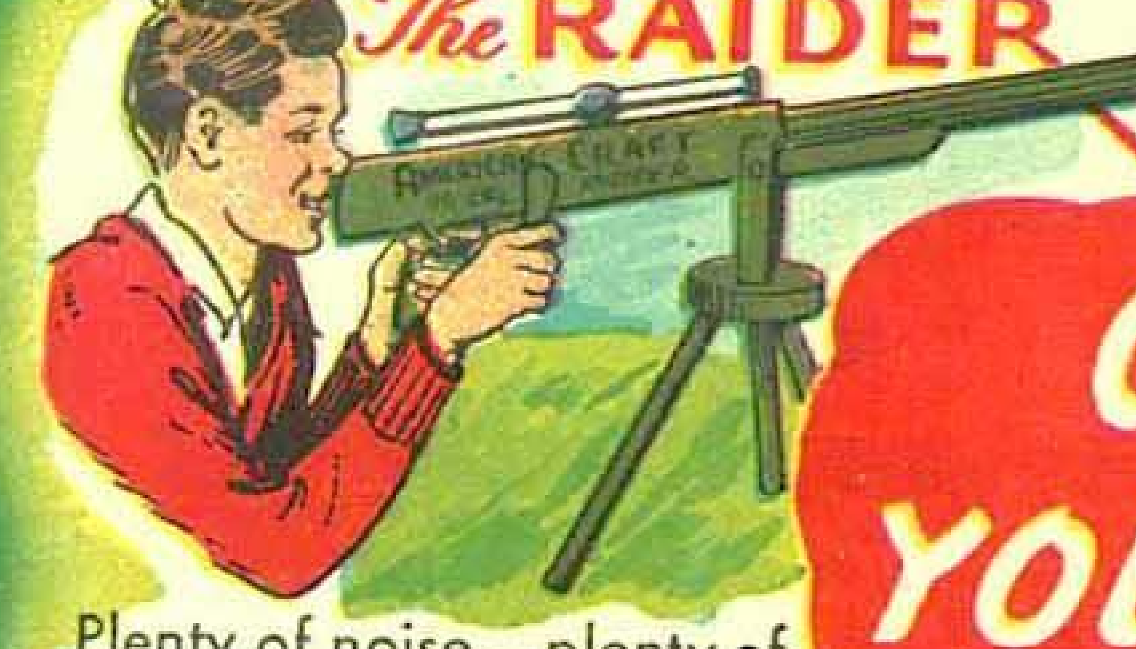

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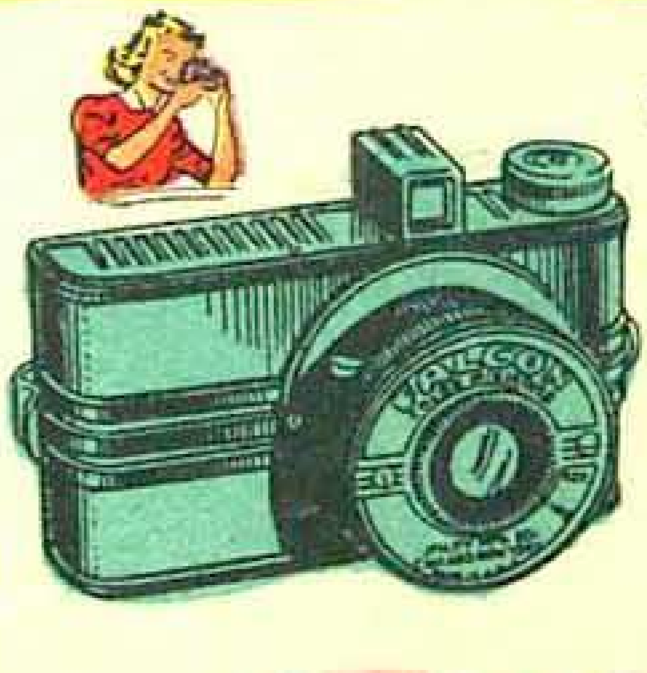

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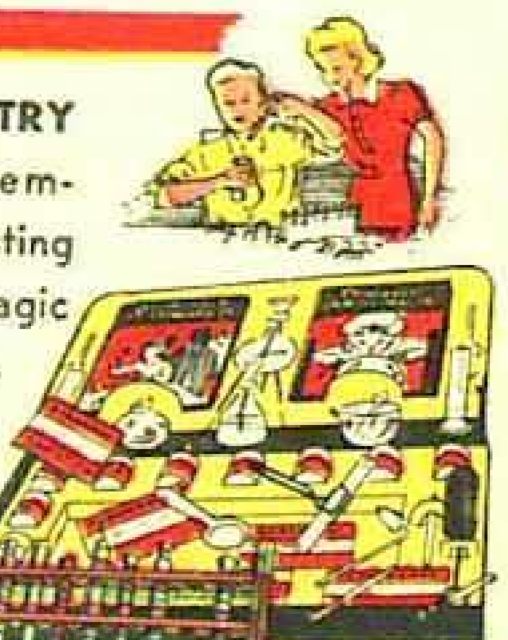

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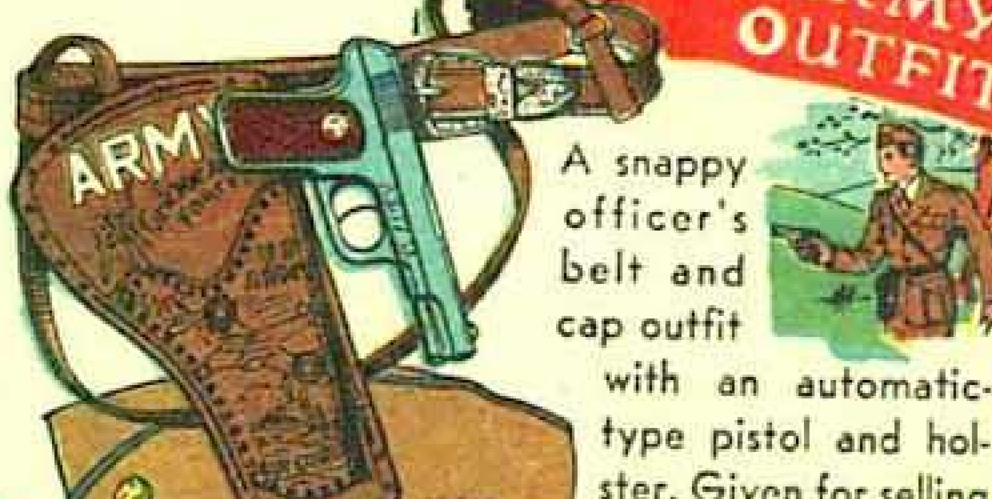

A snappy officer's belt and cap outfit with an automatic-type pistol and holster. Given for selling only one order.

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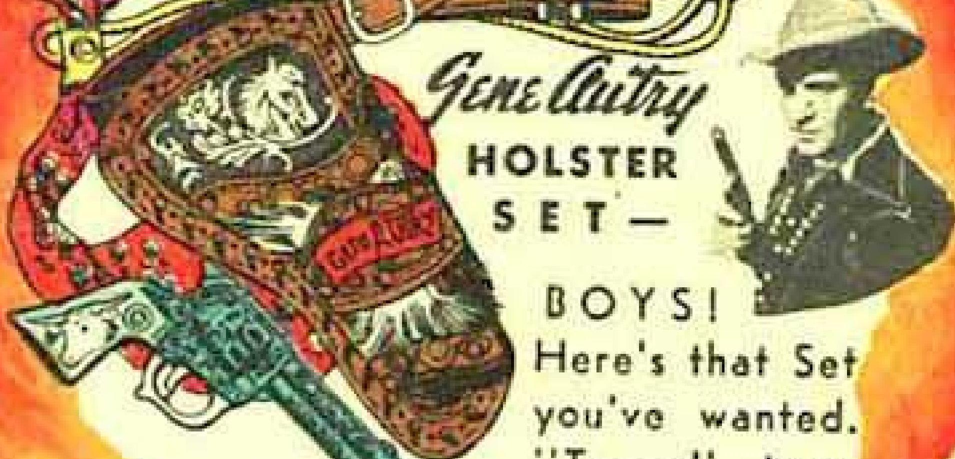

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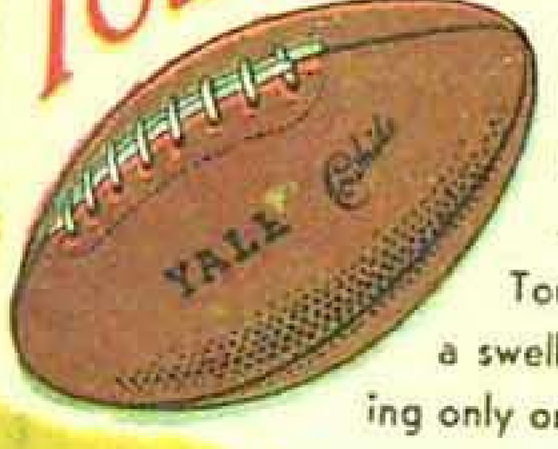

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Full size, sweet-toned Ukulele, decorated with Hawaiian scene. Instruction sheet FREE. Sell only one order.

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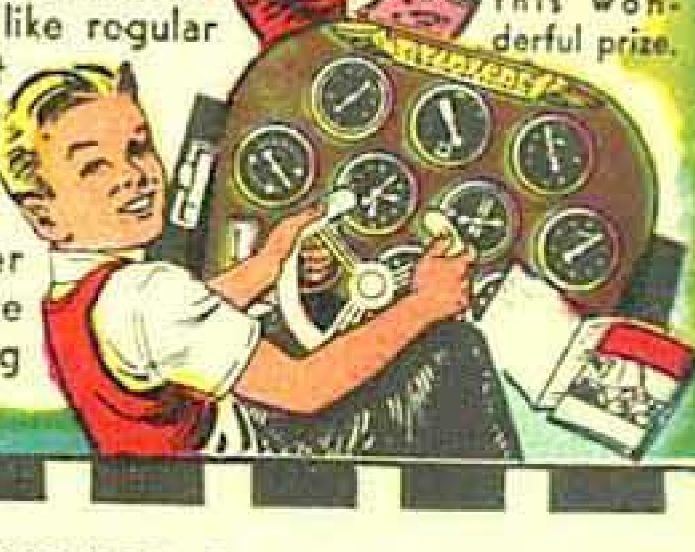

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Other prizes for boys and girls and gifts for Mother, too.

GET YOUR PRIZE THIS EASY WAY

BOYS! GIRLS! Do like thousands of others. Get swell prizes for yourself or gifts for Mother and Dad. All prizes shown above and many others in our BIG PRIZE SHEET are GIVEN WITHOUT A CENT OF COST for selling 40 Xmas Packs at 10c each. Some of the bigger prizes require extra money as stated in BIG PRIZE SHEET.

It is easy to sell these Xmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each pack contains 2 Beautiful Xmas Cards, 2 Envelopes and 24 sparkling Xmas Seals. When sold, send us the money and choose your prize from our Big Prize Sheet.

Mail the coupon today for Xmas Packs and our Big Prize Sheet — tell us what prize you want SEND NO MONEY — WE TRUST YOU.

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. C-81, Lancaster, Pa.

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Please send me your Big Prize Sheet and one order of 40 Xmas Packs. I will resell them at 10c each, send you the money, and get my prize.

My choice of prize is ____________________

Name ____________________

Street Address
or R.F.D. Box ____________________

City ____________________

State ____________________